

Horsham Churches Together Notices

27th November 2024 - Contents

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1. News & Events

— Carol Singing at the Christmas Launch Party

It was wonderful to be singing Christmas carols around Horsham town centre last week (22nd November) as part of the Horsham town centre Christmas Launch Party. The town was packed with people enjoying the festivities, food and late-night shopping. Thank you to the choirs from St Mary's Church, St Mary's Primary School and the Trinity Church Players for leading the carol singing, and to Your Horsham and Horsham District Council for organising the whole evening. There are some great photos on the [Council's Facebook page](#)

Many of our member churches are hosting Community Christmas carolling events in the coming weeks, so please do pop along and bring a friend. If you're organising something an event, then have a look at the Shine Your Light for community carol singing resources and daily online prayer meetings organised by the National Day of Prayer & Worship. <https://www.shineyourlight.org.uk>

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— Fire Safety

Did you know that the West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service offer talks to local church and community groups? Offering a free 30-minute presentation, to talk about fire safety in an engaging way. They can also arrange a stall for a community event that you might be planning for next year. Email benjamin.applin@westsussex.gov.uk for details.

The fire service can also install free smoke alarms as part of their Safe & Well visits to homes in the county. If you, or someone you know would benefit from this free home check, then please visit [the WSCC website](#).

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— Scripture Union; The Great Big Resources Giveaway!

At the end of the year, Scripture Union will be saying a fond farewell to a few of their much-loved resources, including the entire Light catalogue and most of their current schools' materials. But before they go, you can download any digital resources you'd like to keep from those ranges for FREE (or with 75% off printed editions), along with most of their current school's work resources. (You will need to sign up to access them though). [For more information visit their website](#).

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— Community Chest Voting

Horsham Debt Advice are asking for your vote in the "At Home's Community Chest" scheme for this quarter - the more votes they get, the larger donation they receive. Register your vote here - <https://forms.gle/K8AEjBqj1Aa9aJ9X6>. Voting closes 31st December 2024.

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— Save the date: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th January to 25th January 2025

Daily prayer meetings and a United Service at 6pm on Sunday 19th January 2025. Full details will be released nearer the time.

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2. Christmas Resources & Events

— Christmas Resources

Some Christmas resources for 2024:

- [BIBLE SOCIETY](#) - You can read about their Christmas 2024 resources from their website.
- [CHURCHES TOGETHER IN BRITAIN AND IRELAND](#) – links to Christmas resources from a wide range of organisations.
- [GO CHATTER](#) have great videos, and the Lego Nativity is free this year, accompanied by a paid for Christmas Trail resource.
- [SCRIPTURE UNION](#): offer a variety, some are free downloads others are available to purchase. As usual you will need to sign up or sign in to access them.

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— Saturday 30th November, Lifespring's Christmas Market @ The Drill Hall

Lifespring's invitation to join with them at their Christmas Fayre for festive stalls, live music and delicious seasonal food and drink. Perfect for celebrating the holidays with family and friends while finding unique gifts to get you ready for Christmas! Date: 30th November // Drill Hall // 10am - 4pm. [Download their event flyer](#) for more information (or an [A5 flyer](#)). Additionally, Lifespring are looking for stall holders for this event! Bookings are now open. To apply [visit their website](#).

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— Saturday 30th November, Sussex Green Hub @ URC

The monthly Sussex Green Hub will be taking place on Saturday 30th November, United Reformed Church, 45 Springfield Road, Horsham, RH12 2RG, 10am-2.30pm Featuring....

- 10am-11am – Horsham Community Fridge
- 10am-2.30pm – Horsham Repair Cafe, Less Waste Shop, Horsham Eco Churches, Transition Horsham, Community Energy Horsham, Sussex Green Living Recycling (until 1.30pm only)
- 10am – 2.30pm Eco Christmas gifts raising money for the Sussex Green Living charity and their Overherd oat milk pouch and refill sales service
- PLUS... Climate Fresk quiz, Green Book Library, Horsham Cape of Good Hopes (community textile project) and Community Cafe offering tea, coffee and cakes

Visit the [Sussex Green Living website](#) for further information and events

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— Saturday 30th November, Horsham Fairtrade Christmas Market @ St John's RC Church Hall

This year's Fairtrade Christmas Market will be on Saturday 30th November 2024 at St John's RC Church Hall. From 10am to 4pm. 20 tables of unusual Fairtrade products that make ideal gifts, especially for those who care about ethics and the environment. [Download a poster](#) for this event. For more information about Fairtrade [visit their website](#).

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— Saturday 30th November, Winter Fair @ the Warnham Village Hall

A Winter Fair, happening on Saturday 30th November, 11am – 4pm at Warnham Village Hall. Raffles, Tombola, Face painting, Christmas Gifts, Art, Cards, Wood Turning, Books, Cakes, Chutneys and Jams,

Refreshments, Mulled Wine. Raising funds for St Margaret's Warnham Church, the WI, Wild About Warnham, Warnham Flower Club and featuring many local sellers too. [Download a poster for this event](#)

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— Saturday 30th November, Horsham Matters' Merry Melodies Christmas Concert – tickets now sold out!

PLEASE NOTE: tickets for the Horsham Matters' Merry Melodies Christmas Concert have now sold out. The event will be taking place on Saturday, 30th November at St Mary's Church in Horsham, featuring local talent including contemporary gospel choir, Singergy and local legend Jodie Munday plus a special guest. Funds raised will help support the work in the community.

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— Friday 6th December Horsham Borough Band concert at Holy Trinity Church, Horsham

Horsham Borough Band will be performing some great Christmas music, old and new, at Holy Trinity Church, Horsham. For more information [download a flyer for this event](#).

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— Saturday 7th December 'Fire-pit Carols' @ Holy Trinity Church Horsham

Holy Trinity Church, Rushams Road, Horsham are hosting Christmas Carols at 5-7pm on Saturday 7th December. They will have food, Christmas Carols and songs around the Fire pit on the lawn and the Christmas tree in the Church. For further details [download a flyer](#).

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— Saturday 7th December: Christmas movie for families @ BRBC

Brighton Road Baptist Church will be holding a series of various outreach events, including Saturday 7th December 2pm: Christmas movie for families and Saturday 14th December 12.30pm: Nativity Lunch for families; and 7pm Crawley Millennium Concert Band [Download a flyer](#) with a list of their other festive services and events.

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— Saturday 7th December, St Margaret's Christmas Dance

Get your dancing shoes on and enjoy a classic dance evening with meal included. Saturday 7th December, 6:30pm - 11:00pm at Warnham Village Club Tickets £18 each, [book your Tickets on line](#) [For more information download a poster for this event](#)

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— Sunday 8th December: A Lifespring Christmas Contemporary Carol Service

Happening 8th December // Drill Hall // 4pm // Suitable for all ages // Free entry Lifespring's invitation to join with them this Christmas for their contemporary carol service. There will be carols with a live band, choir and complimentary festive refreshments. For more information [download a poster for this event](#) (or an [A5 flyer](#)).

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—Sunday 8th December: Tree of Light Service, at St Mark's Holbrook

St Mark's Holbrook, Horsham, are holding a 'Tree of Light Service', in support of St Catherine's Hospice on Sunday 8th December 6:00pm - 7:30pm. [Download a flyer](#) for this event together with a list of their other festive services and events.

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—Thurs. 12th December Crawley Cineworld is showing a Christian Christmas concert

Crawley Cineworld is showing for KING + COUNTRY's 'A Drummer Boy Christmas Live: The Cinematic Concert Experience' (U rating) on Thursday 12th December at 7pm. For full details and to book tickets [visit the film website](#). A 5-minute extract can be viewed on [Youtube](#)

It can also be seen as a live performance at: Indigo at the O2, Greenwich on Wed. 11th & Thurs. 12th December at 7pm

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—12th - 16th December: Experience the Christmas story at Wintershall

Discover the true meaning of Christmas with an unforgettable event for all the family. It's a Nativity like no other, placing you in the middle of an immersive theatre experience. Stand with the shepherds, walk with Mary, Joseph and the donkey, journey with Roman soldiers and enter the stable to watch the miracle unfold. It's the perfect festive event for kids, parents and grandparents. 12th to 16th December. [Book your ticket today](#)

Wintershall relies on donations for their outreach work, which includes the Passion of Jesus in Trafalgar Square and special performances for school children. One off or regular donations can be made [via the Wintershall website](#)

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—Saturday 14th December 2024, HCT Christmas Carol Service

Horsham Churches Together Carols in the Carfax, with the Slinfold Concert Band, on the Carfax bandstand.

Festive music from 11am
Carol service from 11:30am to 12:15pm, with singing, Bible readings, and a gospel talk
More festive music until 1pm

[Download the promotional graphic for this event](#)



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—Saturday 14th December: Trafalgar Community Choir 'Christmas Cracker'

Trafalgar Community Choir presents "Christmas Cracker". A festive, fun-filled evening of songs, music, cheese and crackers. Saturday 14th December at 7pm at Trafalgar Road Baptist Church. Tickets £10 (children free). All proceeds go to support St Catherine's Hospice. For tickets contact Steve Davies on 07887 59052 / steveldavies37@tiscali.co.uk Download a [Poster](#) or a [Flyer](#) for this event

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—Tuesday 17th December: Christmas SEND Event @ the Horsham Family Hub (The Needles)

Open to all families with a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) up to the age of 11 and siblings. Lots of seasonal sensory and messy play at this Christmas SEND event on Tuesday 17th December. There will be two separate sessions 10am-11:30am and 1pm-2:30pm. To book your place call 01403 213590. This is a free event and will be taking place at the Horsham Family Hub The Needles Neighbourhood Centre, Three Acres, Horsham, RH12 1RS. [Download a flyer](#) for more information.

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—Thursday 19th December: "The Spirit of Christmas - The Gifts we bring" @ URC

"The Spirit of Christmas - The Gifts we bring", Thursday 19th December at 7.30 at Horsham United Reformed church. Now in its third year, this very different and interactive Christmas service is a mixture of prayers, poetry, traditional hymns with just the right mix of modern festive Christian music. All are welcome, refreshments will be provided after the service. [Download a poster](#) for more information.

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—Friday 20th & Saturday 21st December - An exhibition of your favourite Christmas Carols

Come and enjoy colourful and creative exhibits of artistic interpretations including paintings, crafts, models and floral displays of your favourite Christmas Carols at Horsham United Reformed Church, Springfield Road, Horsham on Friday 20th December and Saturday 21st December, 10am-3pm. Entrance free of charge. Delicious festive refreshments will be served accompanied by, of course, your favourite carols to get you into the festive spirit. [Download a flyer for this event.](#)

If you would like to contribute to the exhibition, but perhaps would like some help or prefer to be part of a joint project, there will be a workshop on Saturday 14th December at the church from 10am to 4pm. All abilities are welcome, tea and coffee will be available.

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—Christmas Eve, Horsham Salvation Army's Carols in the Carpark

You are Invited to join in for the Christmas Eve 4pm, 'Carols in the Carpark' at Horsham Salvation Army Booth Way. Supported by members of Copthorne Silver Band. Bring a torch or lantern and come and celebrate Christmas together as a community. [Download a poster](#) for this event.

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3.Christmas Appeals

—Turning Tides, Christmas Appeal 2024

For those without a place to call home, this can be a tough time of year. The coldness of winter is unforgiving, and the harsh reality of not knowing where the next meal will come from strikes even harder. Then there's the feeling of being rejected – again. It is overwhelming, and makes the season feel even lonelier. This is the reality faced by many in our community who then reach out to Turning Tides for support, and to find the way towards their new beginning.

Turning Tides is West Sussex's largest homelessness charity. As Advent approaches, they work tirelessly to meet the increased demand for services. The need for help has never been greater. In fact, in the UK, a household is made homeless every three minutes. Last year, they supported 1057 clients, a 13% increase from 2022/23. They are currently seeing a record number of people without safe shelter.

With your help, Turning Tides can provide a warm Christmas meal, clean clothes, a hot shower, and perhaps most importantly, a listening ear. To receive the gift of hospitality, in place of hostility, can make all the difference to someone's life. For more information about Turning Tides [visit their website](#)

Turning Tides have asked to please consider the following:

- Sharing this appeal with friends, family and colleagues
- Dedicating a Christmas service collection for Turning Tides
- Praying for those who face the festive season without a home to call their own.

To make a donation visit the [Turning Tides donation page of their website](#)

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—YMCA DownsLink Group, 2024 Christmas appeal

YMCA DownsLink Group are the largest regional charity in Sussex and Surrey, working to prevent youth homelessness and support children and young people's emotional and mental health. Could your church hold a collection at your church service, or carol concert. to help young people this Christmas? It would help fund important services including their chaplaincy work. Last year they provided safe, high quality supported accommodation for 1,094 young people aged between 16 and 25, offering so much more than a bed - and part of that is their chaplaincy support. Their multi-faith chaplains provide a sense of family, a space to be heard, to have fun and to eat together, providing home-cooked meals. They would be happy to come to your service and say a few words about how they are making an impact on youth homelessness. By donating to this Christmas appeal, you are helping to change the lives of young people in the community. It will give a young person facing homelessness a safe place to stay and help them see a more positive future is possible. If you are able to help, please contact Dani Fray, West Sussex YMCA DownsLink Group Chaplain, by email Danielle.fray@ymcadlg.org or by emailing fundraising@ymcadlg.org For more information [read the open letter to the churches](#) from YMCA Downslink Group.

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—The Salvation Army, Horsham, Christmas Appeal 2024

“Be a star and donate a gift” The Salvation Army, Horsham, have advised that last year 234 families (over 1000 individuals) received gifts and family-unit food vouchers, and they anticipate a similar number this year. Could you help make Christmas special for those who may have little, or nothing, under the tree on Christmas morning? Donations of New Toys and Gifts (unwrapped please) can be brought to Horsham Salvation Army on Booth Way, RH13 5PZ. Any monetary donations will also be very gratefully received. [you donate by using their dedicated JustGiving page.](#) (Link to the Just Giving page). This will enable the purchase of gifts for the age groups that will be short of gifts, and to purchase food vouchers for each family unit. [For more information, please download a poster.](#)

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—Horsham Matters' Christmas Tins or Toys campaign 2024

Horsham Matters is once again asking for your support to spread some Christmas cheer. Every year they support over 300 families across Horsham District with Christmas parcels which includes festive food and toys for the children.

If you or your organisation would like to support the Horsham Matters' Christmas Tins or Toys campaign, please contact them directly on info@horsham-matters.org.uk in the first instance to express your interest. They can then allocate a list of food items or an age group for toys. With your help, it can be a Merry Christmas for everyone in our community. [Download a poster for this appeal](#)

Alternatively, if you would prefer to make monetary donations you can do so on their dedicated [Just Giving Page](#) (*Link to the Just Giving page*)

Thank you for your support.

In addition, to see their weekly requirements, visit the [Horsham District Food Bank website](#). These donations can be placed in the shopping trolley at the front of their Redkirk offices, Monday- Friday 10am-2pm or at any of their donation points including their Love it Again shop in West Street, Tesco, Lidl and Waitrose. Every donation makes such a huge difference and will help support the most vulnerable in our community.

Finally, there is an updated Foodbank schedule, with changes in Warnham and Pulborough.

[DOWNLOAD THE FOODBANK SCHEDULE](#)

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—Horsham Matters: Christmas Community Days

This festive season Horsham Matters is asking the community to support them by helping them to pack Christmas parcels with food and toys. They will be running two sessions:

- Monday, 2nd December (Please note the Monday is now fully booked).
- Saturday, 7th December 1pm-5pm

Please email them on info@horsham-matters.org.uk to book into the Saturday session. Children aged 10+ are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult. [Download a poster.](#)

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4. Employment Opportunities

• Children's & Youth Leader, St John's Broadbridge Heath

St John's Broadbridge Heath would love to welcome a new Part Time (24 hours) Children's & Youth Leader to help grow the ministry to children and young people, beyond Sunday mornings. If you love Jesus, have a heart for sharing His love with children and young people and are interested in the role, please contact Rev. Mark Lavender to find out more office@stjohnsbbh.org.uk Salary up to £26,000 (pro-rata) depending on experience.

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5. Volunteering Opportunities

—World Day of Prayer - Horsham Branch Administrative Support

The Horsham Branch of the World Day of Prayer (formerly the Women's World Day of Prayer) is seeking a volunteer with skills in administration to help with the organisation of the annual World Day of Prayer service. They have a thriving group which has quarterly meetings. They pray for a different country every

year. Next year it is the Cook Islands. Please contact Alison Hudson, the Branch Secretary, on wdp@panda.me.uk if you feel this could be for you.

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—Volunteer Cooks required @ Turning Tides

Turning Tides are looking for volunteer cooks and helpers in their kitchens at Roffey Place, Horsham. Roffey Place is a short-term accommodation service which helps people achieve a pathway out of homelessness. Each day, the kitchen serves breakfast and evening meal to the 50 residents who live at Roffey Place. For more details about this volunteering opportunity, please read the role descriptions for [breakfast cooks and helpers](#) or [evening meal cook](#).

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—Horsham Matters need Volunteers.

Horsham Matters are in need of volunteers to support their work in the community. In particular, they need support in their charity shop and foodbank:

- **Love it Again Volunteers:** volunteer at their vintage charity shop on Saturdays and/or Mondays.
- **Foodbank Volunteers:** volunteer at Horsham Foodbanks Monday and Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays 4pm - 6pm and Saturdays 10am – midday.

[Download a flyer](#). If you can spare a few hours a week and would like to support a local charity, please contact them to apply, email info@horsham-matters.org.uk

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A notice to churches

Please send your notices for sharing with Horsham Churches Together to admin@horshamct.org.uk by Wednesday 3pm, as notices are usually published from approximately 4pm each Wednesday. Any notices received after this publication time will be held for the following week.

Please read the HCT [privacy notice](#) for details on how we collect, store and process your personal information under UK GDPR. The HCT administrator Anna Pisani can be contacted during office hours on Wednesdays.