

Things to do this Christmas

Ukrainian choir carol singing

On 17 December there will be two chances to hear some Christmas carols sung by a choir made-up of Ukrainians.

The choir will sing five Ukrainian carols in their native language and one in English named *Carol of the bells* (which is preliminary a Ukrainian carol).

The first concert begins at 11.15am at St Bartholomew's Church, Maresfield, High St, Maresfield, Uckfield TN22

Your next opportunity to hear the choir will be at 6pm at St Margaret of Antioch, parish church of Isfield, Off Station Rd Isfield Nr Uckfield, TN22 5XR

Christmas Party, Ashburnham Place, Battle. 19 December

Join Rother Voluntary Action (RVA) for its Christmas party for Ukrainian guests and hosts. Santa will make a visit, and there'll be gifts, games and music.

The event runs from noon to 4pm with lunch served at 1pm. Booking is essential, and can be done by emailing Susan Gedge at ukrainesupport@rva.uk.com

Christmas Concert, St John's Centre, Bexhill. 21 December

This event promises to get you in the Christmas spirit with artisan crafts, traditional Ukrainian Christmas food, and action of promises and of course a visit from Santa who will bringing gifts.

The focus of the event will be on spreading awareness and to raise funds to buy Tactical Medicine for the defenders of Ukraine.

The event is hosted by, The Good Story Initiative, Volya choir and the Bexhill hub for Ukraine, and will have a donation-based entry system.

Doors open at 5.30pm with the concert running from 6-9pm.

Horrible Histories: Horrible Christmas, Bexhill. 22 December

The **Horrible Histories team present an alternative to panto!** This hair-raising adventure runs through the history of Christmas in the company of Charles Dickens, Oliver Cromwell, King Henry VIII and St Nicholas, as they all join forces to save the festive season.

Christmas at Drusillas, Alfriston, up to 23 December

Experience the glistening magic of **Christmas at Drusillas**. Meet Santa snuggled in his cosy cottage, get nose-to-nose with cuddly huskies, join in with the jolly singing reindeer, and marvel at the spectacular 24ft Christmas tree.

Christmas at Bedgebury, Bedgebury National Pinetum and Forest, selected evenings up to 31 December

Experience this **magical Christmas trail** with new lights for 2023 and take an after-dark stroll through an iconic, illuminated tree collection. Discover softly-lit doves delicately balanced on branches, sparkling tunnels of light and the Pinetum filled with all the colours of the rainbow as you walk under Liquid Sky, just one of the new displays to see this year.

Christmas with Mouse and Mole Family Trail, Sheffield Park and Gardens, up to 2 January

Take a winter wander around the spectacular gardens and follow **Mouse and Mole's festive adventures on the Christmas trail**. From playing festive music to posting a Christmassy letter to woodland friends, join in their irrepressible excitement for the festive season.

Lightening Fibre's Ice Rink, Eastbourne, up to 31 December

Glide into the holiday spirit this December with the return of **Lightning Fibre's Ice Rink** complete with everyone's favourite Christmas tunes, incredible lights, and festive decorations.

Royal Pavilion Ice Rink, Brighton, up to 7 January

Stunning, twinkly, romantic, child-friendly – the **Royal Pavilion ice rink** is open now until after Christmas so you can get into the festive spirit in the shadow of the magnificent palace.

We can't capture all the December events taking place this year, so make sure you look out for any festive activities taking place near you and let us know your favourites.