



Hailsham
TOWN COUNCIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Countdown to Festive Events in Hailsham Later This Year

12 August 2019

Following the success of 2018's Christmas town events, Hailsham Town Council and project partners are in full swing with the planning and organisation of this year's Christmas Lights Switch-on and Christmas Market, which take place in Vicarage Field on Friday 29th November and Saturday 14th December respectively.

The town centre will be home to a range of stalls selling fine food, Christmas gifts, candles, confectionary and other items at the Christmas Market event in December, and various festive refreshments will be on sale to tempt visitors.

The event will also feature live music in Vicarage Field (details to be announced soon), and a festive performance by Wealden Brass which takes place at Hailsham Parish Church from 2.30pm (free entry).

Santa (provided by Hailsham Rotary Club) will be handing out free sweets to children and Hailsham FM will be playing popular Christmas tunes throughout the event.

Hailsham Parish Church will be open to welcome visitors from 11am to 12.30pm serving free hot drinks.

Hailsham Farmers' Market will hold a special Christmas event at the Livestock Market site in Market Street on the same day, selling local, quality, traceable food and crafts. There will also be festive entertainment on-site, details of which will be announced in the coming weeks.

Market traders can benefit from booking a free stall on the day and are encouraged to book a stall by calling 01323 841702 or emailing christian.letschka@hailsham-tc.gov.uk as early as possible.

Councillor Nigel Coltman, Vice-Chairman of the Town Council's Communities Committee said: "It may only be August but we're already getting into the Christmas spirit here on the Committee. We received encouraging feedback from both shoppers and stallholders last year and are looking forward to doing it all again this December and making the event an even bigger success."

"We're also excited to have built on the programme of festive entertainment and look forward to welcoming stallholders who can help us continue to make Christmas in Hailsham really magical."

Prior to the Christmas Market, a special Christmas lights switch-on event, which is always a highlight of the year in Hailsham, will take place in Vicarage Field on Friday 29th November.

Pupils from Hailsham Community College and Grovelands Community Primary School will be carol singing before the official switch-on and the winners of this year's Best Christmas Pizza Design competition will press the button at 6pm alongside the Mayor of Hailsham.

Hailsham Parish Church is open to warmly welcome visitors after the switch-on, serving free hot chocolate and marshmallows.

Encouraging people to mark the date of the event in their diaries now, Town Mayor Councillor Paul Holbrook said: "The Christmas lights switch-on is always one of the highlights of the year in the town centre and indicates that festivities are underway. I hope many people decide to attend the event, enjoy the entertainment on offer and get in the festive spirit with their friends and family."

Further information on both Christmas events will be announced in the coming weeks. For enquiries, contact Karen Giddings on 01323 841702 or by email: karen.giddings@hailsham-tc.gov.uk.

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