

#### Dorchester Christmas Cracke

# **DorsetECHO**

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## It's that time of year when Dorchester lights up with festive cheer.

Christmas in Dorchester starts when the lights are switched on at St Peter's Church at 6:30pm so please join us for this year's Dorchester Christmas Cracker. Once again, we will have the Christmas Market in South Street, put together in partnership with the Anonymous Travelling Market. The Craft Fair will once again be in the Corn Exchange from 4pm giving everyone a chance to find those unusual Christmas gifts and support local businesses. We are very grateful to our main sponsor, Kingston Maurward.

So please make your way into town and enjoy all Dorchester has to offer. A huge thank you to St Peter's and Holy Trinity Churches for opening their doors. The shops will stay open later for Christmas shopping and shop staff are encouraged to enter the Christmas spirit by donning fancy dress. The order of the evening will be fun, fun, fun.

When times are not as easy as they might be, we all need something to lift

our spirits. The lights will be shining above the streets, Christmas music will fill the air and laughter, the best medicine of all, will be in plentiful supply. It just remains for me to wish you, your families and your friends, a very happy, warm and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

#### Steve Bulley

Chairman, Dorchester Christmas Cracker Committee





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Sunday 24th December

12noon until 2pm BE THERE, OR BE SQUARE, BREWERY SQUARE

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Dorchester Christmas Cracker

Meet Santa's Reindeen

"With over 14 years experience, I am passionate about supporting local businesses through my knowledge, skills and dedication. Whether you're a sole trader or a large corporate company I can help you."





**ROCK CHOIR** is much more than a choir, it's a multi layered singing experience. The power of music, meeting new friends and performing at life changing events, together contribute to an emotional and powerful journey for members. Rock Choir is the pioneering contemporary choir of the UK and remains unique with over 20,000, members enjoying it across the UK.

This year there will be two chances to catch

and their uplifting, powerful set of song. A 70-strong choir will perform at both 5.15pm – 6pm and then again at 6.45pm – 7.30pm at Holy Trinity RC Church, so there really is no reason to miss out! The concert will also feature the fabulous fiery fiddle playing Nina Garcia and a collection will be taken for LEAF a Dorset based Leukaemia charity.

## Dorchester Arts at The Christmas Cracker 3rd December • Create a Christmas Lantern

Rock Choir

**DORCHESTER ARTS** are leading a Christmas Lantern Parade for this year's Christmas Cracker.



Come and make your very own special lantern to carry on the evening during this workshop led by Megan our participation officer.

JOIN IN – Town Hall 10am-12noon £5 / £3 for siblings Ages 6-10

For more information, get in touch with Megan Dunford, Participation Officer involve@dorchesterarts.org.uk

www.dorchesterarts.org.uk



# SANTA'S FAVOURITE CHOCOLATES

Our factory elves have been busy recently, building up stocks of fabulous festive treats, especially for you!

Why not come down to Poundbury and visit our chocolate grotto and pick up a present for someone special.



## HOUSE of DORCHESTER

Victor Jackson Avenue, Poundbury, DT1 3GY T 01305 264 257 www.houseofdorchester.com

## Susie Hosford

Mayor of Vorchester

**Dorchester Christmas Cracker** 

The Dorchester Christmas Cracker Night marks the start of the Town's Christmas Festivities and we all look forward to it every year. We have a wonderful variety of shops and businesses in our Town and many of your favourites will have stayed open to welcome you tonight.

Whatever your plans for Christmas this year, please try to support our local businesses by 'Buying Local' as much as you can – there's a fantastic range of goods on offer throughout our Town, so please shop here first!

Have a wonderful Cracker Night (Whatever the weather!) And all good wishes for a very happy Christmas!



## **Christmas Commercial Window Display Competition**

In the busy Christmas period, there is nothing more important than the Christmas shop or business window to attract customers through the door, increase footfall and encourage spend. The Dorset Echo, Dorchester Chamber for Business, Dorchester BID, Weymouth and Portland Chamber of Commerce and Weymouth Bid have teamed up to award prizes to the best dressed commercial Christmas windows.

There are three categories to enter and there is a  $\pounds$ 100 prize for the winning window in each category.

Best Dressed Commercial Christmas Window in Dorchester

Best Dressed Commercial Christmas Window in Weymouth

Best Dressed Commercial Christmas Window in Portland

#### How to enter:

Simply upload the photo of your window for judging at dorsetecho.co.uk/ christmaswindow ensuring that you select the correct town for your entry before the closing date for entry Friday, 15th December. A panel of judges specific to each town's entries will judge each category independently to determine the winners. Winners will be announced in the Dorset Echo and online at dorsetecho. co.uk.

#### Terms and Conditions:

Usual Newsquest terms and conditions apply please visit dorsetecho.co.uk/competitionterms. The Dorset Echo maintains the right to exclude any pictures that are considered unsuitable for publication in the competition and will do so without notification. The Editors decision is final. The entrants and winners' pictures may be used in future publicity by the Dorset Echo. All pictures must be received by the closing date of midnight on Friday 15th December 2017. Pictures uploaded will only be valid for entry from commercial premises not domestic premises.



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A very happy and prosperous Christmas

What a year it's been for the world. Sometimes I feel we are quite insulated from the worst of it here in Dorchester but the fact is that as businesses, we all suffer from any uncertainty in the markets and so trading has been a challenge at times.

With the fantastic support from the local community and visitors from afar, Dorchester has managed to keep shining, and remain a great destination for locals and visitors alike. With the re-development of the Shire Hall opening early next year, the arrival of Dippy the Dinosaur and an exciting expansion of the County Museum to follow there are even more reasons to come to Dorchester!





The DBID is funded by the businesses in town to run projects nearly all geared to support businesses and make a visit to Dorchester as enjoyable and

worthwhile as possible. Other DBID initiatives are helping to keep the town vibrant whatever the economic climate. We are delighted to welcome so many new shops and businesses to town again this year, many of which are independents, keeping our tradition alive of offering shoppers the antidote to the 'clone town high street' so often found elsewhere in the UK.

On behalf of all the shops and other businesses in town, we would like to thank you very much for choosing Dorchester when you visit and shop - We know you always have a choice and really appreciate it when you choose your County Town.



John Fiori

DBID Chairm

Not a Dorchester Chamber Member? dorchesterchamber.co.uk/join-us

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# Dorchester Churches

December 7th, the run up to Christmas, with all its hopes and joys, its stresses and strains. How are we to keep level headed during such a time? One such way is to plan ahead, and spend some time with yourself. Plan it because it tends not to happen unless we do! Go deep down within yourself and take time to settle. If I had a pound for every time someone says to me, of course it's your busy time father, or minister, or vicar or whatever. I would be a rich man! Every year we tend to make promises to ourselves, that we won't get caught in the inevitable rush that Christmas seems to be these days. And every year we are aware that we could do better! If this is you, (and it sort of sums up my life), try and bring some balance into your lives. Maybe a visit to a church is for you, (often when there is not a service planned!) and sit quietly with your bags of shopping or your cares and thoughts, and have a little 'me time'. Afterwards connect with the wider community, and try and bring some of that peace and quiet into other people's lives. I do hope that something of the magic of this season stays with you and your loved ones this Christmas.

#### Fr Barry Hallett

Chair of Churches Together in Dorchester

	DATE	CHURCH	EVENT	TIME
I	Sunday 3rd	St Peter's Church	Darkness to Light	6:00pm
L	Sunday Sid		3	
I		United Church	Taizé Service	6:30pm
I	Friday 15th	United Church	"Quiet Christmas"	2:00pm
I	Saturday 16th	Community Church	Carols outside new building in Poundbury	5:00pm
ł	Courselant 47th	Committee Chamala	Kiele Okoletare e Disc	F.00.
I	Sunday 17th	Community Church	Kids Christmas Play	5:00pm
L		Holy Trinity RC	Readings and Carols	6:00pm
L		Baptist Church	Carols by Candlelight	6:30pm
I		United Church	Carols by Candlelight	6:30pm
I	Thursday 21st	St Peter's Church	None lessons and Carols by Candlelight	6:00pm
I	Saturday 23rd	St Peter's Church	Christingle Service	11:00am
I	Sunday 24th	United Church	Christingle Service	4:30pm
		Community Church	Carols by Candlelight	5:00pm
I		Holy Trinity RC	Carols followed by Midnight Mass	11:30pm
I		St Peter's Church	Midnight Mass	11:30pm
	Monday 25th	Holy Trinity RC	Mass of Christmas	8:30am
I		St Peter's Church	Christmas sung Eucharist	10:00am
L		Baptist Church	Christmas Celebration	10:30am
		Holy Trinity RC	Mass of Christmas	10:30am
		United Church	Christmas Celebration	10:30am
	Tuesday 26th	Holy Trinity RC	St Stephens Day Mass	10:00am
	Tuesday 2011	Holy milling ite		10.000111





## Keeping Dorset SAFE this Christmas

"While this is a magical time of year it also sees an increase in cyber crime and internet fraud. We are working to keep EVERYONE safe in Dorset this Christmas!"

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#### Fun starts from 5:00pm

This year's Cracker Night promises to be bigger than ever, with a greater number of retailers staying open and more market stalls extending into High West Street.

We have 2 very special guests turning the lights on at 6:30pm outside St Peter's Church. TV's popular Fire and Police pups will take to the stage to press the magic button to illuminate Dorchester and will be available for photographs afterwards.

Santa will be in his Grotto at Dorset County Museum, which will be open from 5:00pm to 9:00pm. Entry to the museum will be free and everyone is welcome. Mulled wine and mince pies will be available in the Victorian Hall and the tea room will be open as well.

## Cracker Christmas Draw

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Cracker Christmas Draw. The proceeds will contribute towards next year's Xmas Cracker with donations to local organisations and charities.

Tickets are available from many outlets in Dorchester including The Old Ship Inn, Jordans Jewellery, The Horse with the Red Umbrella and The Sydney Arms. Tickets are  $\pounds1$  each with 50/50 Cash prize to winning ticket holder. Also 2 consolation Christmas

Sci-Fi characters will add an exciting dynamic to the festive atmosphere.

The churches in High West Street will open their doors from 5pm with a carol service in St Peter's and the Rock Choir in Holy Trinity. Both churches will be serving mulled wine and mince pies.

There will be a lantern parade from 6:00pm from Top o' Town Roundabout organised by Dorset Arts with children carrying lanterns made in the "Create a Christmas Lantern workshop on 3rd December. Lots of other entertainment throughout the evening to celebrate the official start of Christmas in Dorchester.

box prizes donated by Dorchester retailers.

Tickets will also be available on the night outside The Old Ship Inn until the light switch on at 6:30pm. The draw will be made, and winners announced during the evening.

Licence and printing sponsored by The Sydney Arms, Bridport Road, Dorchester, DT12NG DORC



Craft fair

The CRAFT FAIR will be in the Corn Exchange from 4pm to 8pm. Discover that ideal Christmas gift from the range of finest crafts, home accessories, jewellery, clothing and home-made items on display from selected local traders.

#### List of Exhibitors







Alulu Blu Jewellery Anita Pegorini Anne Soul Bazaar Africa Beadazzled by Rose Billie Rose's Pebble Pictures **Brent Shore** Castle Crafts Cerne Little Giants Preschool Dorchester Men's Shed Fantasy Forest Designs **Fippeny Woods** Flamingo and Fairy Happy Bottom Books Home Start Home Sweet Home Jenna Stone Laser Cutout South West Lucy Volpin Memory Lane Oceanrocks Pam Shellard Ceramics **Purple Poppies** Royal Voluntary Service Silver Star Jewellery Sweet Treets

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Corn Exchange, High East Street, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1HF



How you can help: Make a donation Run a fundraising event

- Have a collection at work
- Support our 5p Challenge

#### Contact Us:

Dorset County Hospital Charity Tel: 01305 253215 Email: Charity@dchft.nhs.uk facebook.com/DCHcharity Registered Charity No. 1056479

CHRISTMAS

SUPPORTING WEYMOUTH



**Dorchester Christmas Cracker** 

Raising £1.75 million to improve care for Cancer patients

Supporting a new Cancer Unit bringing radiotherapy services to Dorchester Please support our Christmas Campaign!





Book a skating session on the REAL ice rink, meet Santa in his Grotto and enjoy the experience of Shopping by the Sea this Christmas!

FREE parking after 3pm in all WPBC town car parks from 1st - 31st December 2017.

SANTA'S GROTTO | BIG CHRISTMAS TREE | ENTERTAINMENT

WECELEBRATE DorsetECHO



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The nature of our work means that many of our clients are elderly, therefore we hold the Specialist advice paper on providing Long Term Care Advice, and the Firm is a recognised 'Dementia Friend'.

The case we would like to share involves a client in their early seventies who was diagnosed with severe onset dementia which necessitated a permanent move to a Nursing Home. The client had no immediate relatives hence a Solicitor had been appointed as their Attorney to manage their financial affairs.

#### **Case Study**

The Attorney got in touch as they were concerned that the client, despite lacking mental capacity, was otherwise physically healthy, hence many years of care would need to be funded. He could see at a glance that the high cost of care fees was rapidly depleting any available capital, whilst the capital invested was providing very little income.

We were asked to undertake a fair and independent review of the client's investments and report back with our findings.

#### We discovered that:

- Over a five-year period the performance of investments had been very volatile, with large swings in fund value suggesting the type of stock held was of a high-risk nature.
- We then benchmarked the performance figures against a nationally recognised index and discovered that in the best year the fund had underperformed by 4%, in the worst year the under performance was 25%.
- Funds over the FSCS limit of £85,000 was being held on deposit earning no income following the sale of a property.

With this knowledge to hand we could see that the current investments were not suitable for an elderly client, who having amassed their wealth, should be following an investment objective of long term sustainability and provision of income.

#### What did we do?

- The investment strategy was changed from a capital growth to a sustainable, capital preservation, income producing strategy, hence the capital value remained at more stable levels, to produce predictable levels of income.
- We eliminated the client's higher rate tax position and corresponding self-assessment duties, and accountancy fees by utilising simple, tax efficient strategies.

- **Dorchester Christmas Cracker**
- The new structure was transparent, with regular benchmarked performance figures provided.
- The Attorney could demonstrate they had sought suitable advice.

If you find yourself being asked to act as a Deputy. Attorney, or Trustee for a friend or relative do bear in mind that you are taking on a legal responsibility which includes demonstrating that you are properly managing the finances this duty can be delegated to a Professional.

#### A Little About Us

Blue Fox Wealth was established by Stephanie Bebbington-Dyke who is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Securities and Investments (CISI).

Within the first year of trading the Firm had taken on over 200 clients seeking a fresh, independent approach to advising on and managing investments. Despite being a successful Firm, we also have a strong ethical ethos and have contributed and supported various Charities over the year.

As well as managing the Firm, Stephanie also supports her colleagues in the world of financial services by sitting on various exam panels with the CISI, and most recently acted as Senior Reviewer for the CISI's Pension Administration Handbook.

#### Why Choose Us?

- Chartered Fellow and exam panel member of the Chartered Institute of Securities and Investments.
- · Specialist qualifications in long term care advice
- Recognised Dementia Friend
- Collaborative approach to working with Clients
- We want to work with you

#### Contact Us

Email: stephanie@bluefoxwealth.co.uk Office: 01935 507230 Address: Unit 2, Higher Barn, Melbury Osmond, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 OXL

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The value of your investments and the income from them may go down as well as up, information provided within this article should not be constituted as advice, and advice should be sought if you have concerns regarding your investments. Tax and Trust work is not governed by the FCA.



ONTHAMPTON

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## Calming Activities for Excited Christmas Kids

Help the kids unwind after all the hustle and bustle of Christmas with these mindful activities.

Lavender Play Dough

This is a wonderful way to help our little ones relax before bedtime. The calming scent of lavender is a great way to soothe the senses and induce sleepiness. Squeezing and modelling the dough is

relaxing in itself and helps stop any grumpy sibling squabbles!

Create A Reading Nook

What better way to explore any books Father Xmas may have left under the tree than to throw together your own, cosy reading nook? Assemble the sheets and blankets, arrange the cushions and disappear into the world of fact and fiction with this fun, low effort, wind-down activity.

### Go For A 'Noticing' Walk

Get the hat, scarves and gloves on and burn off some of that energy with a mindful walk. How many things can you spot that you've never noticed before? Why not spend one minute being quiet, listening to any sounds and noticing all the earthy smells as you go along. Lavender Play dough Recipe

2 cups plain of flour 1 cup of salt 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil Add a few drops of essential lavender oil Optional – add fresh lavender finely chopped Optional - add a few drops of purple food colouring Add 1 & a half cups of warm water and mix!

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MINDFULNESS FOR KIDS WITH ZENNA'S 'KONSCIOUS KIDS' AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES! WWW.ZENNA.ME





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Despite delays to HMRC's implementation of MTD, it is still coming and so we believe it's time to start planning for the change rather getting caught off guard by it. VATAX is here to help!

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## 3 Steps To a More Mindful Christmas

**Dorchester Christmas Cracker** 

## Make Time to Enjoy

Now is the perfect time to soak up the Christmas atmosphere all around you. With so much planning & shopping to do this time of year, remembering to enjoy what's going on is important. Take a moment to sit quietly in candle light, with the Christmas tree lights on and think about what makes Christmas special to you. What do you most look forward to at this time of year?

## Notice the Seasonal Aromas

Nothing brings you back into the present moment quite like the wonderfully festive seasonal spices! It's a great time of year to practice mindfulness by bringing awareness to the vibrant mixture of fragrances around you, whether you're in the kitchen, or enjoying a warm glass of mulled wine or a minced pie. Take time to appreciate the spendid blend of smells and tastes this time of year has to offer.

## Practise Gratitude

Christmas is a great time to enjoy your home, feel cosy and warm, reconnect with loved ones and savour the beautiful food and surroundings. There's a lot to be thankful for! Bring a little Christmas cheer to others by sharing what you're grateful for. Many people also enjoy keeping a 'gratitude journal'. It's a gentle way to remind yourself of all the positive things that are in your life, and the many things you have to look forward to.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Zenna Mindfulness, Health & Wellbeing

Find out how you could benefit from Mindfulness! Email info@zenna.me or visit www.zenna.me



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