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CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

ST THOMAS'S CHURCH SALISBURY

**Tuesday 5th December -
Sunday 10th December
2023**

Opening times

Tuesday - Saturday

10am - 6pm

Sunday 12 noon - 6pm

LAST ENTRIES 5:30pm



Programme



www.stthomassalisbury.co.uk

CONTACT 01722 323266

or 07495154012



Reg charity number 1133882

A Warm Welcome to St Thomas's Christmas Tree Festival

The trees are entered by charities, schools, organisations and individuals. We are so grateful for all the inspiration, time, imagination, skills and humour which has been used to create the entries.

Please refrain from touching the trees unless requested.



A Tree Finder on your phone

Around the Festival you will see some QR codes for our Tree Finder. The Finder uses your mobile phone to give you more details about each entry - its title, its theme and who decorated it. Scan the code with your phone camera to see the entry list, then tap on the exhibitor's name to find out more. You can try it now by scanning this code:



QR codes work with all new smart phones. If yours is older, then you can use this programme instead.



Refreshments

The Festival Café will be open for coffee, tea and cake
between 10 am and 4 pm on
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
On Sunday 10th December it will be open from 2 – 4 pm



A minister is available during the Festival if you would like to talk.



Where do you come from?

There are three maps beside the organ. Please place a sticker on a map to show where you have come from today.

Your Donations

If you wish you may make a donation when you leave the church. This year our donations will be divided between three charities.

If possible, please gift aid your donation.

Salisbury Trust for the Homeless



Salisbury Trust for the Homeless is a local charity that provides supported shared accommodation for single people who have become homeless. We create an environment which allows our clients to develop their skills, regain self-esteem and access opportunities for employment, education and training. This helps them to return to independent living and make an active contribution to society.

Alzheimer's Support



Alzheimer's Support is a Wiltshire charity bringing its award-winning day care to the heart of Salisbury city centre. It provides a purpose designed day club where people living with dementia can find friendship, stimulation and a great day out that will also enable the carer/loved one to have respite for the day.

St Thomas's Church



St Thomas's is as old as the city of Salisbury. It has remained a place of Christian worship throughout this time and we are still privileged to serve the city in all its diversity. We are most grateful for donations to help with the upkeep of this beautiful building and for future maintenance.

On you way to the Café you will pass a display with more information about the charities.

If you wish to be considered as a benefiting charity for the 2024 Tree Festival please send details to treefest@stthomassalisbury.co.uk.

Programme of Music

Tuesday December 5th

10.15	Wyvern St. Edmund's Choir	2.00	St. Osmund's RC Choir
11.00	Forres Sandle Manor Senior Choir	2.45	Sounds Better Choir
11.45	Northumbrian Pipers	3.30	St. Thomas's Hand Bell Ringers
12.30	Salisbury Cathedral School Senior Choirs	4.15	Maerefolk
1.15	Coffee Choir	5.00	Winterbourne Earls C of E Primary School Choir

Wednesday December 6th

10.15	Forres Sandle Manor Pre-Prep Choir	2.00	Salisbury Cathedral School Pre-Prep Choir
11.00	Salisbury Cathedral School Cherubini Choir	2.45	Ayres and Graces
11.45	Bemerton St. John School Choir	3.30	Fourteen Strings
12.30	Amici Choir	4.15	New Sarum Singers
1.15	Godolphin Prep Choir	5.00	All at Sea

Thursday December 7th

10.15	St. Mark's C of E Junior School Choir	2.00	Baroquing Around the Christmas Tree
11.00	Sing For Life	2.45	St. Francis Community Singers
11.45	Piano and Organ: Jane Beaumont	3.30	Piano: Meg Macham
12.30	Valley Voices	4.15	Sarum Wind Quintet
1.15	St. Thomas's Hand Bell Ringers	5.00	Whiteparish All Saints CE Primary School

Friday December 8th

10.15	Woodlands Primary School	2.15	Piano: Ute Schwarting, Clarinet: Nick Harvey, Violin: Dermod Hill
11.00	Close Consort	3.30	Mind The Gap
12.15	Navy Larks	4.15	Sarum Morris
12.55	St. Thomas's Recorder Ensemble	5.00	The Alibis
1.30	Bishop Wordsworth's School Choir		

Saturday December 9th

10.15	Salisbury Pluckers	2.00	Salisbury Tuneful Souls
11.00	St. John Singers	2.45	Piano duets: Ute Schwarting and Lynda Smith
11.45	Salisbury Cathedral Junior Singers	3.30	One Voice
12.30	Salisbury Community Choir	4.15	Bourne Valley Singers and Winterslow Singers
1.15	Wessex Folk Orchestra		

Sunday December 10th

10.15	Parish Eucharist	2.15	Northumbrian Pipers
12.00	St. Thomas's Church Choir	3.15	Downton Training Band
12.45	Jacobs Family and Friends	4.15	Salisbury City Band of the Royal British Legion
1.30	St. Thomas's Junior Choristers		

Sponsors

We would like to thank the generous sponsors of the Festival

Parker Bullen Solicitors

Parker Bullen are excited to be part of the Christmas Tree Festival this year and to be involved in an event which brings so much joy to our local community. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas this festive season. Should you have any legal queries for your family, business or property, you can contact us on 01722 412000 or visit our website www.parkerbullen.com.



St Ann's Gate Architects



ST. ANN'S GATE ARCHITECTS

Local, long established and well known for specialist historic building work, St Ann's Gate Architects are delighted to support this year's Christmas Tree Festival, having been privileged to work with St Thomas's Church over many years in the careful conservation and reordering of this beautiful church building. We wish all visitors and organisers a very peaceful festive season. www.stannsgate.com

H & R Tribbeck and Son

H & R Tribbeck have been independent family jewellers in Salisbury since 1905. Specialising in beautiful jewellery, we pride ourselves in providing expert advice as well as a full jewellery repairs and valuation service.

H R TRIBBECK & SON
FAMILY JEWELLERS SINCE 1905

Hurst Financial Consultancy

Hurst Financial Consultancy have been Independent Financial Advisers in Salisbury since 1997. We wish you all a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

For impartial financial advice please visit www.unbiased-advice.co.uk or call 01722 411411



Whites Estate Agents

Whites Estate Agents specialise in selling and letting all styles and sizes of property across Salisbury and the surrounding villages. We can be always trusted to go that extra mile for you, to make sure that your transactions are as stress-free as possible.



On Foot Holidays

On Foot Holidays is a local, independent business which is pleased to support the festival. We have been sending travellers on self-guided walking holidays since 2004, working with our colleagues and hosts in beautiful parts of Europe and the UK.

www.onfootholidays.co.uk



Sampson Coward Solicitors

Sampson Coward Solicitors are delighted to be part of this year's Festival and wish everyone at St Thomas's and all its visitors a happy and peaceful festive season. For further information on our services please visit our website at www.sampsoncoward.co.uk or contact us on 01722 410664.

Sampson Coward
SOLICITORS

Gullicks Florists

Gullicks Florists is the longest established florist in Salisbury and is proud to support and sponsor St Thomas's Christmas Tree Festival. At Gullicks Florists on Fisherton Street, we design beautifully bespoke arrangements for Christmas which is why we love to be creative at this wonderful event.



Baxters Property and Land Agents

Baxters are your local independent family run property and land agents. We are a small experienced team of property professionals committed to providing all customers with the highest level of guidance and support in the marketing and selling or purchase of your home. For further information please contact us on 01722 238711





Merry Christmas to all from the Baxters team.

Christmas Tree Entries



The entries marked with a star are the chosen charities for 2023.

Posn No	Name of Group	Title of Entry	The idea behind their tree
1	Wiltshire South Trefoil Guild	From small acorns to giant oaks	In 1943 The Girl Guide Association amalgamated various groups of 'old guides' and the name Trefoil Guild was adopted. 2023 is our 80th Anniversary.
2	Mencap Our Club	Our Club Angels	We wanted to celebrate all the different young people (angels) who attend Our Club with Mencap every week at St Francis Church youth lounge.
3	Tesco Extra Salisbury	Christmas in the community	The community team here in Salisbury Tesco have been supporting the community for over 29 years.
4	Children's Chance	Children's Chance 25 th Anniversary 1998-2023	25 years after the launch of Children's Chance we are still helping local children enjoy activities such as music, dancing, swimming, horse riding and football!
5	14th Salisbury (Bemerton) Scout Group	Under the Sea	The decorations made by our Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Leaders represent fish and other creatures found in the sea.
6	Project Uganda	23 years of development and still going strong	To give a brief insight of what we have achieved in the past 23 years with the help of our supporters. Thank you to you all.
7	Salisbury Home Educators	The Giving Tree	Our children and young people have filled and decorated baubles this year. They will be donated to, and distributed by, Salisbury Food Bank.
8	The Listening Place	You talk – We listen	It's good to talk! Bring your worries to The Listening Place and talk to a Qualified Listener. It's free and confidential and it really helps!
9	National Women's Register (Salisbury Group)	Plant a Memory, Plant a Tree	Our events programme theme, this year, is GROWTH. The traditional tree is decorated with smaller versions, representing our hopes and dreams for the planet.
10	Winterslow and Firsdown WI	Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife	This WI put forward a resolution to promote "Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife". It is supported by all WI members in the UK.
11	Bemerton Townswomen's Guild	2023 is the Year of the Coast	We look 'Under the Sea' and celebrate the extraordinary life around our British shores. Praise the helpers on the sea – RNLI, fishermen and Coastguard.
12	Childline/NSPCC	Caring about Children	On average, 2 children a minute contact Childline. Around 90% of our funding comes from our supporters, helping us reach children across the UK.
13	Residents of Laverstock Care Centre	Tu-be-lieve it!	We decided to re-use the cardboard tube from the new carpet which we had laid.
14	Salisbury Tangent Group	Tangent: Fun & Friendship	Tangent is an organisation for women built on fun, friendship and service. Our National President's charity this year is supporting those with incurable blood cancer.

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15	Fawcetts LLP	Heroes	A celebration of the people who inspire us.
16	Wellness Walkers	Walking Brings You Back to Yourself	'Of all the paths you take in life, Make sure a few of them are dirt'. John Muir
17	Salisbury Stitch and Textile Group	Christmas Cornucopia	Christmas is a time of celebration. These decorations celebrate the many and varied skills of our group.
18	Chalke Valley Playschool	The Night Before Christmas	Traditions of Christmas Eve
19	Salisbury Christian Aid	Thank you from.....	We had the idea of displaying messages of thanks from the various countries where Christian Aid is active and making a difference in people's lives.
20	Blue Dragons at St Marks Pre-School	Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star	These stars are made by our 2-3 year olds in our Blue Dragons class who really enjoy coming to visit the Christmas Tree Festival.
21	Braemar Lodge Care Home	Christmas Wreath Tree	The idea for the tree has come from producing wreaths and using other greenery from within our garden to produce an unusual but meaningful tree.
22	Salisbury and District u3a	Activities for Retired Persons	To celebrate our mission to provide varied activities for those in our community who are retired.
23	Sarum Concern for Israel-Palestine	The Key	Palestinians kept the keys to their houses when they were forced into exile (1948). The key is a symbol for their right to return home.
24	Leehurst Swan School	It's a Hoot	The tree is decorated with hand-woven owls with felt details made by all the children at Leehurst Swan School
25	Kaleidoscope Craft Group	Festive Tree of Happiness	A festive reminder of some of the things around us that trigger happiness and bring joy to the world.
26	 Alzheimer's Support	A new dementia centre for Salisbury	Scot's Lane Dementia Centre opened in March 2023. The focus is on providing a stimulating and engaging day out for people with dementia.
27	 Salisbury Trust for the Homeless (STFH)	From Homelessness to Independence	Our decorations illustrate the progress of a homeless person from sleeping rough to receiving accommodation and support from STFH and finally going into independent living.
28	St Thomas's Church Choir	Once in ROYAL David's City	In the year Charles the Third was crowned King, we celebrate the birth of the King of Kings.
29	Evergreens	Friendship All Round	Friendship is what we share at each monthly meeting.
30	Salisbury Cathedral School	Christmas Day Traditions	The Pre-Prep children share their Christmas traditions with you on this beautiful tree. Decorations were hand-made by the children in Nursery – Year 2.
31	Salisbury Museum Volunteers	Yuletide Greetings	Salisbury Museum volunteers, inspired by museum artefacts, made these decorations based on folk art and Yuletide traditions.
32	Milford House	Our Home at Christmas	A replica of our Care Home with the house decorated for Christmas.

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33	Wiltshire Family Counselling Trust (FCT)	Listening Matters	FCT Wiltshire delivers low-cost counselling services for children and young people aged 4-18 and their families. Listening is a key component of this process.
34	Old Sarum Primary School PTA	Ad Caelum	The tree is decorated with baubles which the children colour with the design of their class aeroplane.
35	Whites Estate Agents	Whites helping you find your perfect home	At Whites we recognise home is where the heart is. Our entry this year illustrates how we help people find their perfect home.
36	Harnham Wives Group	Celebrating the Natural World	To celebrate the natural world and all its beauty at Christmas time.
37	Alabaré	Alabaré's Castle Road Help Tree	Alabaré's tree has been created by some of their residents with Learning Disabilities. They wanted the tree to show the importance of helping others.
38	Kathryn and John Lee	Wooden Nativity	Quirky nativity idea seen in previous years.
39	Parish of St Thomas and St Edmund 'Praying Together'	A Rule of Love	Our tree is made available for any prayers for a loved one or worrying situation. Please place your prayer on the Tree.
40	Soroptimist International Salisbury	Orange the World	Soroptimist Salisbury are raising awareness of domestic abuse during the United Nations Orange the World campaign from 25 November – 10 December 2023.
41	South Wiltshire National Autistic Society	How do you feel?	To share how people with autism feel and the sensory response.
42	Ashdown Psychiatric Intensive Care Unit Fountain Way Hospital	A Very Ashdown Christmas	Our tree has been designed and decorated by the staff and service users on Ashdown Ward, some decorations may represent mental health conditions/symptoms.
43	Great Wishford Primary School	The Christmas Value Tree	Authentic values shape lives. Our tree celebrates the values of our school lived out every day and not just for Christmas.
44	Wiltshire Creative	Cats, Rats and Sparkles!	The team behind Wiltshire Creative's pantomime, Dick Whittington, have added some theatrical magic to their tree. Can you spot Cosmo the cat or the infamous rats?
45	Clouds House Rehabilitation Centre	Experience, Hope and Strength Tree	To bring the message around experience, strength and hope.
46	The Nelson Trust	Joy to the World	Women we support bring 'Joy to the World' by working through trauma they have experienced in their lives and having happiness and laughter back.
47	Harnham Day Centre	Memories of Christmas Past	Our members are between 65 and 103 and they briefly describe what stands out in their memory from when they were young at Christmas time.

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48	Baby Squids Salisbury Ltd	Under the Sea	Bringing the love of all things swimming and under the sea to Christmas this year. Team squids have been busy creating some fantastic sea creatures.
49	Sew Festive Franklins	Too Much Pudding	We always have cake in our classes and sometimes we have too much cake!
50	Salisbury Men's Shed	Natural Beauty	Our entry aims to reflect the beauty and fragility of the world in which we live.
51	Baxters Property & Land Agents	There's snow place like home.....	A house is built with bricks but a home is built with love.
52	Our Community Café and Salisbury Pantry	Stronger together 'Community'	These two venues open Tuesdays, run by staff and volunteers. Somewhere to shop on a budget and a place to meet and have free refreshments.
53	Laverstock WI	The International Tree	Festive greetings reaching out to the women of the world from our WI members.
54	The Ark Toddler Group at St Paul's Church	We wish you a Merry Christmas	Every Wednesday in term time, pre-schoolers meet at St Paul's to play and learn about Jesus. We are looking forward to celebrating his birthday!
55	Radio Odstock	Radio Odstock at 70	To celebrate 70 years of broadcasting to hospital patients and the local community.
56	SERV (Service by Emergency Rider Volunteers) Wessex	The Blood Runners	The Blood Runners serving the local community providing a free rapid response courier service for blood products, samples and baby milk to the NHS.
57	New Sarum Singers	In the Bleak Midwinter	A favourite carol at New Sarum Singers' Christmas concerts and with singers everywhere is 'In the Bleak Midwinter', the theme of our tree.
58	H R Tribbeck and Son	Shine Bright	Salisbury's Christmas theme is stars, so we are continuing the theme.
59	Chafyn Grove	We're dreaming of a green Christmas	We want to take care of our wonderful world by having a sustainable celebration.
60	Friends of Salisbury Medical Practice	A Christmas Wish	A tree that gives patients, staff and the local community the opportunity to write their wishes, hopes and aspirations for the charity for next year.
61	Friends of HMP Erlestoke Origami Group	Peace from Paper	The Origami Group at HMP Erlestoke work to create something positive, learn new skills, improve mental well-being whilst raising money for The Friends of Erlestoke.
62	Salisbury Information Centre	Star of Wonder, Star of Light	Star-theme based on chorus of 'We Three Kings' carol. The star guided the Kings – Salisbury Information Centre guides visitors in and around the city.
63	Salisbury Quakers	Simple Radical Spiritual	The words of Quakers in Britain today. Aiming for simplicity, seeking justice where it's needed and guided by spirituality.
64	Whiteparish All Saints	Shine your Light!	'Shine like a light into the world' is the Whiteparish vision and our Christmas tree illustrates how each and every one of us does that.
65	The Jo Benson Day Centre	Christmas in Space	Sending Christmas wishes to infinity and beyond.

Posn No	Name of Group	Title of Entry	The idea behind their tree
66	Christians Against Poverty (CAP)	Always Hope	The Salisbury CAP centre helps local people struggling with debt and poverty find freedom and friendship. The tree symbolises lives touched and stories of hope.
67	Friary Art Group	Christmas past and present	We celebrate the age range of our group so all have different treasured memories – some recent and some long ago.
68	Wessex Stoma Support Group	Recycle. Save the Planet. Support Salisbury District Hospital.	To remind people to return medical aids to Salisbury District Hospital thus saving thousands of pounds and recycle blister packs for Stars Appeal.
69	Salisbury Food Bank	Is your Christmas looking sparse?	For many people across Salisbury, Christmas is looking very sparse, with some residents unable to afford the essentials like food, a warm home or toiletries.
70	Speech and Language Therapy (SLT) Salisbury District Hospital	Conversation begins with a single word	What do words mean to us? First words? Last words? Cherished words? Lost words? Contributions from parents, families and the SLT team at Salisbury Hospital.
71	Linda Robson	Advent Remembrance Tree 1943	Photos and details of a variety of WW2 military personnel and children who died in the Advent Christmas period 1943.
72	Five Rivers Child Care – South and South East Fostering Team	Foster with Us!	We are raising awareness of fostering with Five Rivers! Our Foster Carers turn children's lives.
73	On Foot Holidays	On Foot Holi-Tree	Our tree reflects how different European countries share and celebrate Christmas. Our friends overseas inspired us with their holiday traditions.
74	Spire u3a Arts and Crafts Group	Third Agers Learn, Laugh and Live	Arts and Crafts is one of many interest groups within Spire u3a. This autumn we have been developing our crochet and patchwork skills. https://myu3a.org/groups/spire.htm
75	St John's Priory	Santa's Workshop	'Santa's Workshop' evokes the creative, magical and enchanting side of Christmas, especially in our children's minds.
76	Horatio's Garden	From the Hedgerow	Creating a natural tree using the flora and fauna from the hedgerow and garden that are enjoyed by the patients in Horatio's Garden.
77	Mompesson House, National Trust	A Christmas Carol	This year at Mompesson House we're celebrating Charles Dicken's 'A Christmas Carol'. Discover the story and walk back in time to Victorian London!
78	Monument Place	Christmas Eve	Turkeys stuffed, carols sung, church bells rung, stockings hung. Children sleeping, dreaming of Santa's sleigh as the world awaits the dawn of Christmas Day.
79	The Salisbury & District Royal Osteoporosis Society	Use it or lose it!	Most games can be played forever, with some adaptation and imagination. Use it or lose it, keep active, have fun, laugh.

Posn No	Name of Group	Title of Entry	The idea behind their tree
80	Salisbury Sing for Life Choir	Sweet Silver Bells	Gaily they ring while people sing, Songs of good cheer, Christmas is here, Merry, Merry, Merry, Merry Christmas.
81	Sounds Better CIC	The Music Sounds Better with You	We work with people with long-term health conditions to feel and sound better through group music-making. Join us to feel the benefits!
82	Wyvern St Edmunds Art Students	Infinintree	Inspired by the cosmic world of Yayoi Kusama, this speckled and spotted tree plays with fractal geometry to reflect a forest within a forest.
83	OSJCT Willowcroft	Willowcroft Craft	Our residents enjoy knitting and crochet club every Friday morning. Knitting and crochet bring memories back and joyful time.
84	Coombe Bissett CE VA Primary School	Tell Me a Story	At Coombe Bissett School we love reading! We have saved some old and damaged books from the bin by turning them into beautiful decorations.
85	Sandroyd School	While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks	Sandroyd Pre-prep's tree is designed around the carol 'While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks', showing that whilst we are different, we are all part of one flock.
86	Care UK	A Tree Full of Wishes	Our tree tells of the wishes of our residents, their ambitions and un-realised dreams which we can fulfil for them.
87	St Francis Rainbows	A very merry rainbow Christmas	Every rainbow loves Christmas and we try to make it as bright and sparkly as we can.
88	In-Spire Stitchers	Angels from on high	A selection of hand-made angels made by members of In-Spire Stitchers
89	Ladybirds Pre-school	A Traditional Christmas Tree	Our little hands helped to make this tree even more beautiful. Based on the Paradise Tree of Eden.
90	Sarum Morris	Name That Dance	Each decoration represents one of the dances in our repertoire. The challenge is to match the dance title to the decoration.
91	Sam Bird	Not just for Christmas	I love Christmas movies, all year long. These are some of mine and my team's favourites.
92	u3a Sarum	Learn, Laugh, Live	The tree decorations show the great variety of group activities enjoyed by members of Sarum u3a.
93	Patients of Longford Ward	Changing Lives	Our patients have sustained life-changing injuries. Leaving them with a huge task of overcoming the challenges they face. With determination anything is possible!
94	Gullicks Florists	A floral Christmas	Gullicks Florists floral Christmas Tree is inspired by the red velvety Santa suit and all the luxurious trimmings that go with it!

Acknowledgements

The Festival Committee wishes to thank the following:



SGS for the testing of our electrical connections for this event

- our cake-makers and those who served the cakes, coffees and teas
- our stewards and back-room helpers who work so hard to make the Festival happen
- our exhibitors for their inspired entries and the musicians for their time and talent

Most of all we thank you for coming and hope that you have enjoyed the Christmas Tree Festival. We also thank you for any donations you may feel able to make to our chosen charities as you leave.

Photos/Videos

Photography and video are permitted. If you would prefer for you or your child not to be photographed, please speak to a steward. If you are taking images for official use, please register with the event organisers (at treefest@stthomassalisbury.co.uk) and comply with our safeguarding policy available on-line at <https://www.stthomassalisbury.co.uk/safeguarding/> or at the Information Desk.



Christmas at St Thomas's – All Welcome

Christingle for Families 4pm Saturday 16th December

Carols by Candlelight 6pm Sunday 17th December

Carols for Busy People 1.10pm Tuesday 19th December

Cheques will be presented to Salisbury Trust for the Homeless and Alzheimer's Support Group

Midnight Mass 11.30pm Sunday 24th December

Christmas Day 10.15am Monday 25th December

We wish all our visitors a very Happy Christmas!

