



# East Preston Christmas Celebrations



Saturday 23rd November midday to 5pm

It may have been in the shops since September, but here in East Preston, Christmas starts on **23rd November!**

That's the date for this year's **East Preston Christmas Celebrations** which will again be a great way of starting your Christmas season.

The numbers on this map identify specific event locations as detailed. The timetable overleaf has full listings if you are looking for a specific event. Why not highlight in advance those activities you would like to join?

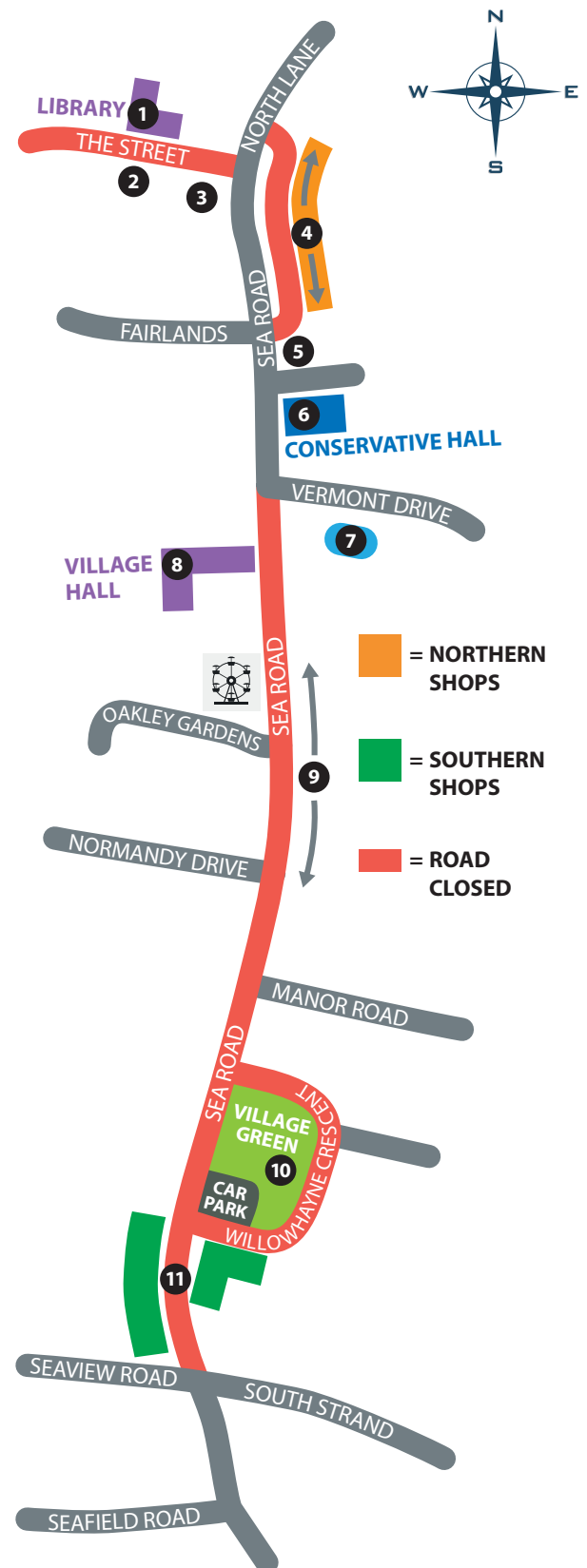
We are delighted the French Market will be back in the village, once again setting up in The Street between the library and the British Legion.

Having greeted children and their parents in his grotto, Father Christmas will lead our lantern procession from the Northern shops to the Village Green, assembling there to sing carols and enjoy a short fireworks display kindly part-sponsored by the East Preston Film Society. Lanterns can be made at East Preston Library. If you can bring your own jam-jar that would be great. If you have any spare jam-jars, please bring them along to the Council Office during office hours (10am to midday) in the week before the event.

Please remember there will be the usual road closures on Saturday and if you usually park in Sea Road, please could you ensure your vehicle is parked elsewhere by 9am on the day. This will help with the success of the event. *Thanks.*

## Special thanks to:

- the East Preston Clinic which is again sponsoring the conversion of the Conservative Hall into the Miles Ahead Music Club offering a great variety of music between midday and 4.30pm;
- the East Preston Film Society for sponsorship of the fireworks display;
- all the community volunteers who willingly give them time and imagination to the event.



# East Preston Christmas Celebrations

Saturday 23rd November midday to 5pm

Event Guide - see overleaf for map of event locations

Unless otherwise stated, all events run **from midday onwards**

All event details may be subject to change

Keep up to date by liking East Preston Christmas Celebrations on Facebook



## THE STREET

- 1 East Preston Library
  - Children's activities including badge-making and lantern decorating, East Preston Library, **12pm to 3:30pm**
  - Punch & Judy show, East Preston Library, **2pm to 2:30pm**
- 2 - French Market, **10am**
- 3 - Mega meat raffle, Royal British Legion, **1pm**
  - BBQ, mulled wine and mince pies, Royal British Legion, **12pm to 4pm**
  - Willie Austen, <https://www.willieausten.com/>, Royal British Legion, **2pm to 5:30pm**

## NORTHERN SHOPS / CENTRAL SHOPS

- 4
  - Christmas window displays
  - Children's lucky dips and more, Just Because...
  - Other attractions to be confirmed
- 5
  - Christmas window displays
  - Secret Santa Giveaway!, Kerry's Community Tea-room, **9am to 3pm**
  - Vintage China Sale - all proceeds to Baytree Lunch Club, Kerry's Community Tea-room

## MILES AHEAD MUSIC CLUB AT CONSERVATIVE HALL (sponsored by The East Preston Clinic)

- 6
  - East Preston Junior School Choir, **midday to 12:45pm**
  - St Margaret's Angmering Handbell Ringers, **1pm to 1:45pm**
  - Horsham Accordion Band, **2pm to 3pm**
  - Marni Finch, solo singer, **3:15pm to 3:45pm**
  - Wellington Wailers, sea shanties, **4pm to 4:30pm**
  - Pebbles Catering pop up café, **midday to 4:30pm**
  - Lantern procession to the Village Green, **4:45pm**
  - St Barnabas prize draw, **midday to 4pm**

## OUR LADY, START OF THE SEA CHURCH, Vermont Drive

- 7
  - Father Christmas **12pm to 1pm**, **2pm to 4pm** (last ticket sold at 3:30pm)
  - Close-up magic and balloon modelling, **3pm to 3:30pm**

## VILLAGE HALL (N.B. only hearing and guide dogs allowed inside)

- 8
  - Craft and Gift Fair, **until 5pm**
  - The Baytree Club pop-up catering
  - Outdoor craft stalls
  - Outdoor food and drink stalls
  - Award-winning face-painting and glitter tattoos

## SEA ROAD AREA

- 9
  - Charity gift and card stalls
  - Fun fair, **12pm to 7pm**
  - Hot Food Stalls
  - Petworth Town Band, **3:45pm to 4:15pm**
  - Ride-on train courtesy of Bognor Regis Model Railway Club

## VILLAGE GREEN

- 10
  - Inflatables **12pm to circa 5pm**
  - Electric go-karting **12pm to circa 5pm**
  - Miniature ride-on tractors **12pm to circa 5pm**
  - Petworth Town Band, **4:45pm to 5:30pm**
  - Short firework display (kindly sponsored by East Preston Film Society), **5pm**

## SOUTHERN SHOPS

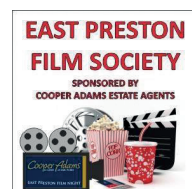
- 11
  - Christmas window displays
  - Children's lucky dip, Indian street food and more, Seaview Stores
  - Free treat bags for dogs, Canine Design
  - Beer Festival, The Clockhouse Bar
  - Tropics beauty therapy tester sessions, The Clockhouse Bar
  - Special offers, most food and drink outlets
  - Live Music throughout the day and evening, Tudor Tavern

Thanks to our major sponsors:



Personal Professional Patient Care

**The East Preston Clinic**



# A Precious Resource

We live in a water-stressed area and Southern Water predicts that we will need to cut our average water consumption by almost 25% by 2040 because of population growth in the south east and the effects of global warming. Southern Water has a number of suggestions to help:-



Get a free 'Save a flush' bag for your toilet.



Choose water efficient shower heads.



Don't leave the tap running whilst brushing your teeth.



Make it a full load when using your washing machine or dishwasher.



Don't overfill your kettle.

You can also ask Southern Water for a free water-saving visit at [www.southernwater.co.uk/home-visit](http://www.southernwater.co.uk/home-visit)

Southern Water is playing its part by undertaking to reduce leakage by 50% by 2050 as well as increasing investment in water treatment and reservoirs.

Average daily usage per person in Southern Water area is 131 litres per person, but the target is 100 litres per person by 2040.



*Why not check your water bill to see how well you are doing and help make a positive contribution to the environment?*

Southern Water also offers support to help vulnerable customers. Their Priority Services Register is designed to make sure that customers get the help they need and provides everything from large print bills to extra support if there is a disruption to supply. They can also provide financial assistance when required. You can sign up to the Priority Services Register by phoning **0800 027 0800** or via the Southern Water website [www.southernwater.co.uk/services-we-offer](http://www.southernwater.co.uk/services-we-offer)

To find out more pick up a leaflet from the Council Office or visit the Southern Water website [www.southernwater.co.uk](http://www.southernwater.co.uk)

## Village Life

### December

2nd	Full Council (7pm)
3rd	Business Breakfast (8am)
9th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm) Audit & Governance Committee (7pm)
16th	Finance & General Purposes Committee (10am)
20th	Fire Service vehicle in Village Green car-park (tbc)
30th	Planning & Licensing Committee (10am) Major Events Committee (11am)

### January 2020

6th	Full Council (7pm)
13th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
20th	Personnel Committee (6pm) Amenities Committee (7pm)
27th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm) Community Engagement Committee (7pm)

### February

3rd	Full Council (7pm)
5th	Business Breakfast (8am)
10th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm)
17th	Finance & General Purposes Committee (10am)
24th	Planning & Licensing Committee (6pm) Major Events Committee (7pm)

Most council meetings are held at East Preston Infant School, Lashmar Road. However, for all meetings, please consult the Noticeboards and website a few days before the meeting for the Agenda and venue.

**Please note the above list may be subject to change.**

## Community bus

From time to time, we hear from residents they would like a bus service to the southern end of the village. They would then use that service rather than their cars and may even surrender their cars.

Over the past few months we have entered into a serious dialogue with Compass Travel (Sussex) Limited and our Rustington and Angmering counterparts about extending the No. 12 bus service into the village. The route would include it coming down to and around the Village Green, between 10am and 3pm six days a week. Outside of the village, the route would include the seafront road, giving our residents public transport access to Littlehampton Wave Leisure Centre.

Obviously, provision of a community bus comes at no small cost, so we would like to know how you feel about having a daytime bus to the southern end of the village. Are you in favour? Are you against? Can you think of any alternatives? Should this be something the council and village should be providing? Would you support a one-year trial of such a bus service. Please write in or email us, details on the back cover.

Our contact at Compass has visited the proposed route and sees no major problems with it. With revised parking regulations being considered by West Sussex County Council to improve safety around the Sea Road junctions with Manor Road, Willowhayne Crescent, Normandy Drive and Oakley Gardens, a bus should be able to move freely around the Village Green without causing any disruption.

**Please let us know your thoughts on this matter.**



# Funday Sunday – A lovely afternoon

On the 6th October, the Parish Council hosted its first **Funday Sunday** event. This was held in the Village Hall which was beautifully decorated for the occasion.

Residents of East Preston were served a fine selection of sandwiches, scones and cakes, all helped down with numerous cups of tea or coffee served from delightful vintage china.

Entertainment was provided by *Vintage Candy* singing a selection of songs from the 1940s through to the 1970's. The music proved irresistible and many guests took to the floor, putting on their 'dancing shoes' to join in the fun. In between the musical interludes, table-top magic was provided by Jonathan Cann, accompanied by jokes and plenty of laughter.

The 4th Goring Guides were brilliant at waiting on tables, chatting to our guests and generally helping us to ensure that everyone was well looked after.

The afternoon was a great introduction to what we hope will become a regular intergenerational opportunity for people to meet with existing friends, make new friends and to feel part of the wonderful community that is East Preston.



## EPIC Appeal from St Mary's

You might have spotted something fluttering forth from the October issue of *All About East Preston* magazine when it hit your doormat recently - a flyer about the EPIC (East Preston's Iconic Church) Appeal.

The Friends of St Mary's - the parish church in Vicarage Lane - hope it will raise £100,000 to maintain and preserve this very special medieval building. If you've not already decided to donate to the cause, maybe we can persuade you to now....



Have you ever passed the church but perhaps never thought about how long it has stood there and what it has meant down the generations?

St Mary's has been our parish church throughout the reigns of so many monarchs, and has "witnessed" many parishioners heading off to fight in countless conflicts. (In fact, there are seven Commonwealth war graves in the churchyard, including a joint grave for two naval officers killed during an attack on Ford airfield in 1940.)

Perhaps your ancestors were married in the church, or you've been to baptisms there and seen for yourself just what a special place this oldest working building in the village truly is.

To have survived so many centuries has taken a good deal of work at considerable expense and so if St Mary's is to be there in years to come, she's going to need a lot more tender loving care.

Masonry is crumbling away, the north wall urgently needs re-rendering, and we need to ring the changes on the bell mounting and frame too... and they're just a few of the many tasks crying out for attention.

Whether you've never been inside St Mary's (there's always a warm welcome), or you're a regular attendee at services, we'd be so grateful if you could donate whatever you can to help keep St Mary's standing.

If you still have the EPIC Appeal flyer, you'll find a donation form on the back, or you can give via the 'Donate' button at [www.stmarysep.org.uk](http://www.stmarysep.org.uk).

And don't forget to step into Christmas at our sensationally sparkly and tinsel-tastic Tree Festival from 13th-15th December – another key fundraising event for the Appeal!



## East Preston Festival in Crisis

[www.eastprestonfestival.org.uk](http://www.eastprestonfestival.org.uk)  
[email:eastprestonfestival@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:email:eastprestonfestival@hotmail.co.uk)

Our wonderful ten-day Village Festival, that has run every June for the last 38 years and in 2017 won the Sussex Life Festival of the Year, is seriously under threat.

This year, five committee members are standing down and unless their places are filled it will not be possible for the remaining committee to stage Festival 2020.

The Festival is planned and organised by a small group of East Preston volunteers. It is the envy of the surrounding area and, apart from unifying our friendly village, it attracts visitors from near and far, helping to support our local shops and businesses.

As well as having fun, the profit from events is ploughed back into our community. Over the last seven years the Festival Committee has donated around £65,000 to local charities and good causes, and has also given £5,000 towards the equipment for the new accessible toilet being constructed as part of the refurbishment of the Sea Road toilet block.

We are making a plea for volunteers prepared to give some time to help with the planning and staging. The

Committee meets once a month for approximately two hours but we keep in touch with each other by email in the interim. You would be assigned to a specific area as we try to use people's strengths so that they are happy with their role.

If you want to help us continue this great tradition please phone 07710 352647 or email [eastprestonfestival@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:eastprestonfestival@hotmail.co.uk)

*Thank you.*

### The Festival Committee



## New floor in the Miller Barn



If you have not been to the Village Hall since the summer holidays, you may be unaware of the smart new floor which was installed in the Miller Barn during August. We hope this will make the Miller Barn a more attractive venue for hiring for special functions and occasions.

The new flooring was carefully chosen by the Village Hall committee and should prove hardwearing for many years to come. The committee has also bought into a maintenance package to assist in that aim.

The Village Hall committee thanks the parish council for its financial support of this project.

**Toni McElroy** – Chairman of East Preston & Kingston Village Hall Foundation

## Sea Road toilets

As you will probably be aware, work has finally started on the refurbishment of the Sea Road toilet block. The existing Ladies will become a single accessible toilet, with much additional kit to help the less mobile; the existing Gents will become two unisex cubicles directly accessible from the outside. Weather-permitting, work is expected to complete towards the end of November.

## Thanks to....

The Seahorse Café, One-Stop, Co-op and Sainsbury's for their contributions towards Funday Sunday.

.....

KEPT (Keep East Preston Tidy) for running the Village Tidy-Up on 6th October and for its continuing attack on litter in the village.

.....

Fr David Rea for over twenty years of loyal service to the community through his time at Our Lady, Star of the Sea Church. We wish him a happy retirement.



## Correspondence Corner

If you would like something considered for publication in this section, please email us or write in, marking your envelope or email, Correspondence Corner.

Our latest entries in Correspondence Corner are:

### NATIVE PLANTING

East Preston, like almost every urban area in the country, is a wildlife wasteland because of the catastrophic decline in wildlife populations, occasioned by habitat loss, chemical poisoning, and the disastrous planting of foreign and horticultural plants instead of native species.



Almost every garden and public green space in East Preston has foreign trees, shrubs, and herbaceous flowers, which provide the poorest possible habitat for our beleaguered wildlife. The photograph above was taken in an East Preston garden.

If we want to bring wildlife back to our village we must start to reverse 150 years of destructive land management and the planting of alien plants, by planting only native species from now on, and using only natural gardening techniques so that every garden and green space is an extension of the countryside. This means sharing with wildlife, not excluding it, by adopting policies of no chemicals, no power tools, no digging, no pruning or shaping, no tidying, no feeding, no weeding, only natural fungal recycling, and no disturbance of other kinds. Then the wildlife will return. The alternative is a silent village.

BD

N.B. *Soon after this newsletter goes to print, the parish council will be discussing whether to implement a Native Planting Policy. More on this next issue.*

### K.E.P.T. – KEEP EAST PRESTON TIDY

This is the name of a small but effective group of volunteers who endeavour to do just what the name suggests. Besides picking up litter in their own time week by week, they have also held two Sunday events and invited the public to join in this very necessary task. They have a Facebook page on which there is more information.

Much has been done to educate the general public

about the devastating environmental impact of rubbish (particularly plastic) on the sea but all such waste originates on land. 14 Beach Cleans have been organised by the parish council and are very effective but much more needs to be done to prevent the rubbish from getting to the sea in the first place.

Unfortunately, over the years, the grass-cutting programme has also had to be reduced and the result is really long grass as well as grass and weeds growing in the gutters throughout the village. Sadly, this in turn leads to more littering.

It's wonderful to live in a clean, tidy, picturesque village but it takes hard work to keep it like that. Please help by picking up litter and join K.E.P.T. when they hold a 'village clean'.

CA

### ROAD SAFETY

Thanks for the latest newsletter which I appreciate and always read.

The piece regarding inconsiderate parking was well made and much needed.

On the same theme, i.e. consideration for others, I wonder if we could draw attention, please, to what the Highway Code has to say regarding, in particular, parking and junctions.

I'm referring to Manor Road and its junction with Sea Road. The difficulty, (in turning right on to Sea Road), is caused by vehicles parking too close to the Manor Road junction and thereby severely restricting, or completely obscuring, a driver's view of traffic travelling south.

The Highway Code is clear...

#### RULE 243

**DO NOT stop or park opposite or within 10 meters (32 feet) of a junction**

CW



Please contact the office if you would like a large print version of this newsletter.



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