

Let's bring some Christmas Joy

Supporting Families and Neighbours!

Festive Craft Corners


- Set up a drop-in space with paper, pens, glue, and recycled materials for kids to make cards, decorations, and ornaments
- Display creations in the library, town hall, or shop windows
- Create "Kindness Cards" for kids to write and send to neighbours and elderly residents.

 Bonus tip: Run a competition for the best handmade decoration – these can be used to decorate the community tree

Provide a community tree where people can hang baubles with messages: remembering loved ones, or hopes for the new year

"12 Days of Christmas" Window Trail

- Ask local shops, schools, or families to decorate windows with each verse of the song
- Create a walking trail map for families to follow during December evenings

 Bonus tip: Link it with a treasure hunt (spot the robin, count the stars, etc.)

Pop-Up Cinema:

- Host screenings of classic festive shorts, animations, or singalongs in a hall or library
- Provide popcorn and hot chocolate for free or donation-based


 Bonus tip: Offer "pyjama screenings" for kids with blankets and cushions



Lantern Walk or Lights Trail – decorate a route with fairy lights or handmade lanterns

Run a Christmas Gift Swap / Re-Give

- Set up a table for pre-loved toys, books, decorations, or games
- "Take what you need / leave what you can" system
- Perfect for families facing cost pressures

 Bonus tip: Involve local schools, scouts, or WI groups to collect donations

"Festive Freecycle Fair"

- Focus on Christmas-specific items: jumpers, decorations, tableware, toys
- Residents donate unwanted seasonal items, others pick them up for free
- Cuts down waste and saves families money



Santa's Workshop

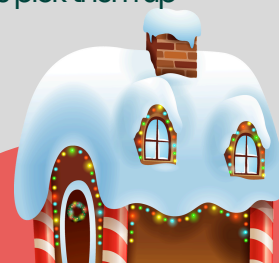
Recruit local handyfolk or crafters to run a toy repair/make station before Christmas



Un Llais Cymru



One Voice Wales





Open a Community Christmas Space

- Use a library, hall, church, or council office for a drop-in festive hub
- Offer free tea/coffee, mince pies, board games, crafts, and charging points
- Decorate with donated decorations and fairy lights
- Run "Festive Film Fridays" with family-friendly movies



Bonus tip: Ask local bakeries or supermarkets to donate mince pies or biscuits



Give each attendee a small token (e.g. handmade card, knitted bauble)



Host a Festive Cuppa & Carols and Encourage intergenerational connections



Coordinate a Christmas Surplus Food Collection

- Partner with supermarkets for surplus festive food
- Redistribute via a central hub or warm space
- Share timings on Facebook / WhatsApp groups



Bonus tip: Run a "Christmas Eve Food Alert" for last-minute pickups



Assemble Family Festive Packs

- Include hot chocolate sachets, biscuits, craft kits, colouring sheets, and a local support info flyer
- Distribute through schools, foodbanks, or warm spaces



Run a Community Bake & Share

Community festive baking with simple allergen-friendly recipes



More Quick Ideas

- Secret Santa Swap – low-cost or homemade gift exchange in the community hub
- Community Christmas Karaoke – family-friendly fun night
- Volunteer Gift Wrapping Station – Help parents who may be stressed or short on time.
- Free Family Photo Booth – A Christmas backdrop where families can get a keepsake photo.

How to Get Started

- ✓ Choose 1 project to trial in November/early December
- 👉 Identify 2 local partners (e.g. supermarket, school, charity)
- 💬 Use Facebook, WhatsApp, noticeboards for quick promotion
- ✍️ Assign one councillor or volunteer to lead each mini-project

All community councils in Wales need specific legal powers that enable them to provide various services and support for their local communities. For advice and guidance, councils may wish to contact their One Voice Wales Development Officer.



[One Voice Wales Website](https://www.onevoicewales.wales)



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<https://bit.ly/3KYHftK>

