



FLAMSTEAD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FESTIVAL

After the success of last year's event, the Flamstead Christmas Lights Festival is back for the second year in a row. It was so lovely to see Flamstead lit up in December 2020, with over thirty houses entering the Christmas Lights Festival and many walking around to vote for their favourite display. We hope that this year, even more villagers will take part.

It's free to enter, free to vote and there are prizes to be won for our entrants!

The aim of the Christmas Lights Festival is to get Flamstead residents involved in a festive activity that brings us together, whilst also raising money for a local cause.

To those of you who light up your houses every year and those who play it cool, why not enter the festival and be in with the chance of winning a Champagne gift basket?

Everything is free, but the festival would be delighted to accept any donations small or large from entrants and voters to help support the ongoing running of St Leonard's Church. Information on how to donate can be found at the bottom of this page, on the entry and voting forms, as well as on the festival's Facebook page.

So, how will it all work?

The festival will finish on Christmas Eve, just in time for the big day.

Here are the dates you need to know and abide by in order to take part:

11th December

All entry forms must be handed in by midnight on the 11th December.

Please download the entry form attached to this email, fill it in by hand or digitally, and email it back to flamsteadxmaslights@gmail.com (attaching a picture of your form is fine). Or you can take a photo of your entry and then this can be whatsapped to 07946 323809.

The entry form will also be available to download from Friends of St Leonard's Facebook page and the Friends of St Leonard's website. You will need to include your name, home address and email address. Once you have sent us an entry form, you will be sent an entry number that we ask you to display yourself by your Christmas lights - make sure it is clear for voters to see or you might miss out on all important votes!

We will publish the addresses of the entrants so that voters know where to find all the displays.

12th December

Voting begins. All entrants' lights must be displayed by this day.

The voting form, and list of entrants will be emailed out via Grapevine and posted on the Facebook page on the morning of the 12th. Please download the map and address list for the location of each entry.

The voting form can be downloaded, printed, filled in by hand or digitally, and sent back to flamsteadxmaslights@gmail.com or take a photo of your votes and then this can be whatsapped to 07946 323809.

Please note: you do not have to enter the competition in order to vote. 21st December Voting closes. Please send your voting form to us anytime between the 12th and the 21st December (final forms by midnight of the 21st), to flamsteadxmaslights@gmail.com. You may not vote for your own entry!

24th December

The Winners will be announced via the Grapevine and Facebook, and prizes will be given out. There are prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for the best display of Christmas lights. There will also be a randomly selected winner drawn from all those who vote in the festival.

We have tried to make the festival as digital/online as possible to ensure everyone's safety in light of COVID-19. However, if you have any concerns about using email/printers/PDFs and so on, please do get in touch via email. We don't want anyone to miss out on the festive fun!

How to Donate to the Festival

FoSL raise funds for the preservation and maintenance of St Leonard's Church. We work closely with the Flamstead PCC, who are a separate charity and who deal with the day-to-day running of the church. Funding from the Heritage Lottery Grant and donations by Friends of St Leonard's for the Fabric of the Church has meant that the building is now fit for the 21st Century. However, after more than eighteen months of St Leonard's Church being closed due to Covid and Building works, the funds of the St Leonard's PCC (Parochial Church Council), have really been hit as they haven't been able to raise funds from their usual weekly activities, which are needed to be able to run the church day-to-day and to be able to keep the building open as a place for the community to enjoy.

With a new Vicar in post and the Church opening this December, the PCC have big plans for 2022 and beyond, involving new projects and activities happening throughout the week which they hope will benefit the whole community.

Therefore this year **FoSL will be running the event, but we will be inviting donations going directly to the Flamstead PCC [via their Go Fund Me Page](#).**

Click on the link or copy and paste into your browser <https://www.gofundme.com/f/flamstead-christmas-lights-2021>.

Thank You for any donations you can give. The church building couldn't stay open without your support.

A reminder of how to contact us:

Email: flamsteadxmaslights@gmail.com **Facebook page:** Friends of St Leonard's

After another year like no other, let's light up the village for everyone to enjoy a bit of festive sparkle!