

ILLUMINATION  
STREET

Britain's Best  
Christmas Displays  
2019

Safe  
Style  
UK

SUNDAY  
Mirror

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## THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!

It's the most wonderful time of the year, and here at Illumination Street, we want to celebrate the incredible work that goes into lighting up home fronts for the whole neighbourhood to enjoy!

Whether it's for charity or for fun, we've had some fantastic entries into our national competition and have seen some spectacular demonstrations of Christmas cheer. Here are those shortlisted for 2019...



## FOREWORD

This campaign highlights the changing attitudes towards front gardens within the community. Over recent years there has been a growing trend towards decorating our gardens for the festivities. Whereas, a decade ago, it was just a few hardy souls here and there. But with the rise of readily available lighting, gardens have been transformed into awe-inspiring winter wonderlands and now most of us are venturing outdoors to festoon front gardens with lights, decorations and Christmas-themed accessories.

Everybody gets involved in creating something at the front of their homes to welcome their neighbours as they walk past. But even the simplest thing, like a wreath on the door, can uplift our hearts and fill us with the joys of Christmas.

Some people get stuck in to raise money for good causes and others are just looking to bring a smile to someone's face but, overall, they make a great contribution to brightening up communities... and anything that gets people outside and enjoying their gardens is a good thing in my book.



This was the inspiration for Illumination Street; a passion to get people outside and gardening throughout winter.

As a Chartered Horticulturist I know well the vast benefits awaiting anyone who is spending time outside with nature—it's what put the wheels in motion for enhancing communities across the UK through the Cultivation Street campaign, after all. People often think that the use of their garden ends when summer does, but this just isn't true. If anything, we need more to encourage us towards gardening during winter; when we're cooped up inside and fighting off colds.

Your garden has a wealth of goodness to offer and through Cultivation Street's sister campaign, Illumination Street, Britain's communities are motivated to actively participate in all that nature has to offer in the run-up to Christmas. So, with the oncoming celebrations, the hope is to get every generation engaging in the great outdoors through a national competition for all ages.

DAVID DOMONEY  
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Illumination Street are privileged to have the support of their sponsor, Safestyle UK—who proudly back this campaign to bring together those in the community hoping to spread cheer to others at Christmas.

Thanks to their ongoing support and donations for the cash prizes, the national competition aims to elevate the incredible displays people create, some of which raise money for charity and light up people's lives.



## FRONT GARDEN LARGE

PRIZES 1ST : £1,000 , 2ND: £500 , 3RD: £100

Festively festooned house fronts, shimmering sheds, twinkling trees and pearlescent pathways provide a canvas to bring bright displays and Christmas cheer right to your doorstep. The winner will be judged on creativity, community pride and overall cheer.





### SHEPHERD FAMILY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - MARLOW, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

This traditional Christmas light display is stylishly synchronised to music. Each of the 15 songs on the repertoire take 20 hours to programme and this year's song is called 'Those Christmas Lights' in celebration of Illumination Street. The house has many names locally, from 'The Christmas House' to 'The Sparkly House', 'The Glittery House', and 'The Gingerbread House'. Its reputation has instilled excitement and wonder into the community.

For the third year running the display is raising money in support of the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust, who provides education and training on mental health, particularly with children. Any prize money won will be donated to the charity. With over 2,500 Facebook followers and thousands of visitors over the Christmas period, people come from miles away to see the lights and anticipate the light show every year. It has become so well-known that the family intend to continue to put out a new creation each year, so as to not disappoint those who look forward to it and to maintain their efforts to spread Christmas cheer.



### COPE PARK CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - ALMONDSBURY, BRISTOL

This magical and enchanting display is very neatly constructed and themed in whites and blues. The whole house is covered in LED Lights, even the garden and driveway are adorned in light and so far these sights have managed to raise over £50,000 for charity over the 16 years the annual demonstration has been in place.

Overall, it takes the residents 6 weeks to put it all up and costs the household around £3.50 per night on electric, but this has never once deterred them. Instead, the home also put lights up for their neighbours as well and organise a switch on ceremony every year, during which they give out free mulled wine, hot chocolate and mince pies to the guests. As well as this, 300 presents are gifted from "Father Christmas" all for free.

The display has received its share of heart-warming compliments and comments over the years and many of the observers are regular attendees. Most notably, the children of the community wait in excitement for the lights every year in the run-up to Christmas.



### LEAVES SPRING LIGHTS - STEVENAGE, HERTFORDSHIRE

This display burst into life twenty years ago and had grown from there, now involving the younger generations and newer members of the family. Developing from just light, it's now a full-fledged sensory and immersive audio/visual display enjoyed by all ages and abilities. Part of the experience is a speech made by the creators every year, during which they donate treats for the children and introduce the chosen charity of that year.

Weekend visits from Santa are one of the highlights for the children to visit, where they can take photos and are even given a small gift from Santa himself. In recent years the display has gathered attention from local radio, press, and the annual switch on has also grown to surprisingly large numbers. Hundreds of people turn out to share in the experience, and families over the years have shared with the residents how their display has featured in some of their most treasured family memories to date. Hundreds of pounds have been raised for their charity, Autistica, so far and they're not planning to stop any time soon.



### OAK ROAD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - OKEHAMPTON, DEVON

This bright, bold and family-friendly display takes place across two front gardens, a joint effort for two neighbours who wanted to make a difference. Local visitors have been nothing but positive over the decorated house fronts and even the local press have written a piece on it.

The local Round Table and their Santa used the venue as a singalong stopping point along their route and it's become a local attraction for many. The display is all to help raise money for Devon Air Ambulance and, so far, they've managed to donate money to a cause that's close to so many of their hearts.

The children have responded particularly well to the sensational addition to their street and can be found running up and down the gardens looking at all the lights and telling their parents all about it. Numerous people have said that their children want to come and see the lights every single night.



### MANOR AVENUE EXTRAVAGANZA - CATERHAM, SURREY

Framing this display, suspended from specially-built structures, are cool white fairy lights arranged in geometric triangles, 12 stars and festive shapes. Icicles hang from the top to give the impression of an icy tundra twinkling in the night sky. The main feature is the gazebo covered in fairy lights, housing 25 light ornaments on snow covered ground. The walls are adorned in different rope lights and a Santa figurine is positioned as if he is climbing up the wall, where the cool hue of snow-white lights peer from each window. In front, a semi-circle of lawn gives place to a group of grazing reindeer.

At the light's switch on, over 500 people attend- including Santa and his elves - and the family were able to raise £846 for the charity Strikey Stork through the onsite donation box. Favourite features include the Santa riding a plane, a star-shaped light positioned on the highest apex of the house (which looks like a shooting star), the inflatable penguin and a 10ft Christmas tree that sits pride of place at the display's centre.



### WESTON CHRISTMAS LIGHT DISPLAY - CREWE, CHESHIRE

This display was born out of their sister's love and fascination for colour, light and sound. Each year, the collection grew until, sadly - suffering from complex health issues - she passed away in December 2015 (aged 18). The family decided to continue fundraising and to dedicate the light display in her memory.

All proceeds go to the Donna Louise Children's Hospice - a charity which had once provided services to the family and a place which has provided emotional and practical support to them over the years.

The light show has become a 'date in the diary' for the locals and the sight of them visiting each year helps the family through a very difficult and emotional month. It is described as the best, brightest and most-animated display across our Cheshire countryside! The community adore the festive fundraiser and say visiting the display each year is part of family tradition. In 2013, around 500 people visited the light display, compared to over 15,000 people who visited last year for Christmas 2018.



### ENCHANTED KINGDOM - TINTINHULL, SOMERSET

This display is all focused towards the delights of Disney Magic and enchantment, so the kids absolutely love it. The magical scenes are created to tell different stories each year and these themes flow from one to the other.

On-site is a traditional Christmas village, as well as a magical enchanted village full of hobbits, trolls and fairies. It's like a playground for the children, who use their imaginations to engage with the figurines and create fairy tale lands.

Now in its third year, the family responsible for the display have made it bigger and better each year; from the first year when they raised £682, to last year raising £1,956, and then to this year when the hope to raise even more for local amazing charities. On the 1st of December, the annual light's switch on saw several thousand people visit the display and their support was said to have been by the bucket full.



### CHELTENHAM DRIVE CHRISTMAS DISPLAY - BROMFORD, BIRMINGHAM

It's one of the UK's largest residential Christmas displays, containing approximately 25,000 individual LEDs across all of the display elements. The display has been growing for over 10 years and has raised thousands of pounds for great causes. This year, the organisers are raising money for the British Heart Foundation in memory of their father who sadly passed away in November.

The local people love the display and have suggested that this light display marks the beginning of Christmas for them and their families. Others have commented that their children's Christmas isn't complete without a visit to the 'Christmas House', as it's now become known.

The display takes place on the front lawn so that passers-by can revel in the bright lights, there's a snow-covered feature with eight animated reindeer, a forest of Christmas trees and a 7ft teddy bear to boot!





### NORTH VIEW CHRISTMAS DISPLAY - BOLSOVER, CHESTERFIELD

This display uses both old and new technology combined to create a lightshow like no other. Started back in 2002 to raise money for a different charity each year, in 2008 they took this one step further and began synchronising the lights to music.

In 2012 the organisers then introduced 484 intelligent pixel lights which can be controlled to appear in any colour or pattern, the display now boasts over 1000 of these lighting the various features, including a 4 ft snowman.

A family effort, mum of the family had become an integral part of the effort; dressing up as Santa Claus and handing out gifts to children, but she sadly passed away to cancer in April this year. So, in honour of her memory, the display continues on and plans to do so indefinitely. From young to old, the visitors love the display so much that some drive up to 2 hours to visit!



### ILLUMIN8 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - FRADDON, CORNWALL

Colourful, bright, and memory provoking, this display appeals to all ages. It demonstrates two trains with their carriages full of gifts, a reindeer farm and an Arctic area with playful penguins, polar bears and deer. Also in situ are bells, baubles, angels, candles and doves—all the wonderful things we associate with Christmas.

The display tries to reuse and recycle old items; an old play slide is now displayed as an arctic waterfall; old pallets has been used for the fencing on the reindeer pen and the new frames for lights are made from old tent poles. The display is designed and organised by a 16-year-old boy with autism. He creates it all by himself; buying all the lights himself from money he's earned, planning it months in advance - from power distribution to where each nail will be put - and constructing it too.

He's become known in the community as the 'King of Christmas' and has single-handedly brought so many in the community together.

## FRONT GARDEN SMALL

PRIZES 1ST : £1,000 , 2ND: £500 , 3RD: £100

A frost-tinted rockery, fencing a-flicker with lights, or some sparkling patio pots could be all it takes to win the small garden display. Judges are looking for innovative ways to brighten up dark corners and bring a little merriment to even the smallest of nooks.





### NUTT'S CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - FOUR OAKS, SUTTON COLDFIELD

This display is packed with features, it has 10 reindeer, 2 sleighs, 8 snowmen, 9 penguins, 3 Santas and 12 small Christmas trees — not to mention a bucket-full of twinkling lights. This home has been putting up lights like this for 40 years and originally did so for the enjoyment of the family.

Now, every year, the display goes up to raise money for charity and, over the past 5 years, they have raised nearly £10,000 for the Leukaemia Cancer Trust. It's a worthwhile cause that's close to people's hearts and money is lovingly given during the switch on, during the beginning of December. As well as this, during the event, they put on a firework display and serve hot drinks, so it's become very popular.

The local community and local paper have come out to support them and overall have commented on how the display and this family's effort have helped to raise Christmas cheer at this time of year.



### WHITE HOUSE LIGHTS - GRAVESHEAD, KENT

Complete with a fully working light-up seesaw on top of the roof, this display has real panache. It's quickly become a much-anticipated milestone for locals during the Christmas period. People from neighbouring streets have branched out and been in touch since it went up and many comment on how the sight uplifts their evenings home from work.

The resident's grandchildren are hugely involved in the effort, decorating the trees and setting up the train track too. Fun and festive Christmas figurines are dotted throughout, so it's now a highlight for the children in the area who spend their evenings interacting with the fun designs. The moving reindeer and gifts are a favourite for them too.

The display is all support of Lest We Forget charity, who receive any proceeds collected from the donations box on site and the display's organiser have said that people have become very generous over the festive season.



### BALDWIN FAMILY CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - WATERLOOVILLE, HAMPSHIRE

This contemporary and eye-catching display takes a year to plan. Complete with a synchronised light display, the homeowner has been growing their collection and fine-tuning their design over the past few years, inspired by other enthusiasts on YouTube. Animations are set to music like, 'Let It Go' from Frozen —much to the delights of the local children.

In 2018, after his mum passed away from diabetes, the organiser of this heart-felt display decided to dedicate it to her memory. The show now runs twice each night in order to collect donations for the charity Diabetes UK and last year managed to donate as much as £400 to the worthwhile cause.

Through word of mouth and local interest on Facebook, the display has gathered quite a following in the local community and the organiser is already dreaming up bigger and better display ideas for next year.



### ARCTIC LIGHTS - BRIGHOUSE, LEEDS

This simple, yet effective, display is Arctic-themed, with the stand-alone figures and pop up trees with lights. Blue light-up penguins take pride of place in the middle of the lawn, along with a giant polar bear who is wearing a festive scarf for good measure.

Santa even makes an appearance with his favourite reindeer, Rudolf, and the kids love to look at the inflatable sleigh. The whole display is framed with hundreds of twinkling fairy lights.

Many of the people who come and visit the garden, bring along their children and grandchildren so that they can soak up the sights, but the local residents are also very supportive because they share in the joy the display has brought to their street in the run up to Christmas, so the organisers have no plans of stopping anytime soon!



### A COLOURFUL CHRISTMAS - SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE

The designers of this display believe that Christmas is all about colour and so have organised a display that's choc-full of it. Mainly, the display is constructed each year for the enjoyment of the home's residents and family members, putting a smile on their faces as they return home for the day. A team effort, the display is constructed in a day and the children are a huge part of putting it all together.

The family kids and those in the community are particularly fond of grazing reindeer, the vibrantly framed door - also a big hit with the local postman - and cars often stop to take a look as they pass by.

Overall, the community is very supportive of the display growing in size every year and bring their loved ones by to some and drink in the festive sights.



### LIGHTING UP ACADEMY WAY- DAGENHAM, ESSEX

Two neighbours have joined forces to create a display over 2 townhouses that sees walls, windows, trees and pathways adorned in lights. The display reaches over 2 stories high, having built up the stocks of decorations over the past 7 years it's been running.

On show is an array of low voltage string lights, static and animated LED rope lights and neon lighting silhouettes. Windows are decorated with animated figures and ropelights, trees are dressed in baubles and string lights.

The display changes slightly every year and, due to being situated very near to a school, many children enjoy our display on their way home. The organisers have begun to attract a good following on social media and have had many people asking when they can bring their children to see the houses. People passing have been known to stop and take photos, while cars slow to a halt to look and enjoy the colourful display.



### THE LITTLE CHRISTMAS VILLAGE - SWANLEY, KENT

This magical Christmas village is handmade from pallets, wood offcuts and recycled materials. A traditional and modern mix, something for all ages. With a new creation being added every year, the Christmas village will continue to grow.

Lots of detailed and hand painted characters, giant sweets and animals cover the gardens; there's even a gingerbread house and a bakery filled with cakes. The light shines through the stain glass windows in the traditional church. The nativity scene, which include baby Jesus in his manger has a real traditional message of Christmas.

A curtain of lights acts as twinkling backdrop. Multi coloured, flashing lights give the gingerbread house an extra pop of colour, while fake snow surrounds the village. Many visitors to the display have requested the resident's to commission pieces, but they've decided to keep it one of a kind and have gathered a sizeable online following.



### KLS CHRISTMAS DISPLAY - HAYDOCK, MERSEYSIDE

This is a winter wonderland complete with a penguin slide, seal water playground and polar bear iceberg. The snowman's illuminated house shows skiing figurines, while others wait patiently for Father Christmas to arrive.

The garland archway welcomes people into the property with the inflatable doorway welcoming into the house—a real eye catcher for people passing by. Though the display has run for many years, this is the first year it's in support of charity, with a switch on event planned for next year.

The resident's began constructing the display in October, with many strange looks from people passing by. But, this year, before the display was even complete, a gentleman submitted a donation towards the chosen charity. For the organisers, it's all about standing at the window and watching the smiles on people's faces as they walk past.



### ALPHA ROAD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - HUTTON, BRENTWOOD

2019 marks the 5th year of this computer-controlled Christmas light show. The display consists of hundreds of individually controllable 'smart' pixels, all sequenced to a variety of music, from chart toppers to Christmas classics.

One of the home's 14-year-old family members began setting the show to music in 2015. By 2016 they used the display to raise money for the Essex Air Ambulance; a lifesaving service that receives minimal funding from the government or NHS. One of the main additions for 2018 was the big screen—a 2-metre wide LED video screen. Throughout the show, it displays lyrics, animations and even clips from films.

This year, they've expanded onto neighbouring houses, and added hundreds more colour-changing lights. The show lasts about 15 minutes and is played twice a night, at 6pm and 7pm. Families come back each year, but this year they have shown even more support for the charity, which is what it's all about for this festive family!

### WARDS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - RENISHAW, HERTFORDSHIRE

In memory of his late brother, who sadly died of bowel cancer, aged 46, the owner of this house decided to put on a Christmas display to commemorate his brother's Birthday (which was Christmas Day). Now they raise money for cancer charities through this uplifting display each year.

In 2017, they came runners up in a Royal Mail Christmas light competition and since then have endeavoured to grow the display substantially.

The first year raised about £250.00 for Macmillan and over the years they've raised over £1,000 for Bluebell Wood. This year, the display has already managed to raise £300 in 12 days and so the family now hope to keep the momentum and raise funds for this worthwhile cause.

## COMMUNITY DISPLAY

PRIZES 1ST : £500 , 2ND: £250 , 3RD: £100

The best community display will be awarded to the school or community project with the finest demonstration of club camaraderie and community creativity. Some akin to that of starry skies, others an icicle-inspired spectacle, but the judges will be keeping their eyes out for neighbourhood flair and frivolity.







### HIGHERFORD RESIDENTS ACTION GROUP - HIGHERFORD, LANCASHIRE

The 'Christmas Globe Project' was conceived by the local resident's group because the council lights were looking tired and didn't have the funds to buy more lights for the area. The idea was to have globes around the neighbourhood, on people's houses, and a central display of 50 in the trees around the village green. The three local schools contributed globes in their colours and a workshop was held to help residents make their own.

It was such a resounding success the display grew by 30 more (which the local drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre made) and nearly 200 are now displayed around the area.

The local BBC radio have done a broadcast about the turnaround thanks to the project and it's the talk of all the local towns social media pages. No one who sees the globes fails to say "Wow!" as the sight of them — at night it is truly magical. This project has really brought the best out of the community and it's hoped to grow and become a tradition for years to come.

### ALLOTMENT ANGELS - BAILLIESTON, GLASGOW

The display 'A-lot-A-Christmas-Cheer' has been designed to give the nursery kids, volunteers and local people a magical experience on the allotment. The allotment is a lifeline for people who rely on the friendship and companionship of others volunteering over the winter season.

This allotment believe it's important to keep the kids interested too, in not only tending to the winter veggies, but to bring magical cheer to others. The kids come and use their imaginations to take a ride on the Polar Express to the Magical Christmas Tree. The elder volunteers have loved being part of the 'Christmas Creation Team' and delight when they see the kid's reactions; reminding them of their youth now their families have long since grown.

The community know that the winter months is when their volunteers need the allotment most, some do not see people for days on end. A quote from their eldest volunteer: "The allotment has saved me, I never thought I would part of a team again. Without the allotment, I would have been in better mental health".



### TWIGS COMMUNITY GARDEN - SWINDON, WILTSHIRE

This year, TWIGS community garden - who provide therapeutic work in gardening - have put together a display for the enjoyment of the local children. This Christmas-themed set up boasts 1000's of twinkling lights and bauble-adorned wands, which pave the way through a Children's Discovery Trail.

The garden invites people to come and see the garden in all its Christmas glory, enjoy a mulled apple and mince pie, peruse the festive stalls or take part in the informative trail for children.

The result of local corporate volunteers and TWIGS volunteers coming together to create something uplifting and truly wonderful for families at Christmas, it really shows the true meaning of community togetherness.



### HASLUCKS GREEN JUNIOR SCHOOL - SHIRLEY, WESTMIDLANDS

This tree is part of a year-long intergenerational project between Haslucks Green School and The ExtraCare Charitable Trust. The tree has been placed centre stage for a series of Christmas events at the new Solihull Retirement Village on behalf of the residents.

The Nutcracker was decided on as part of an incentive to decorate retailers' windows using "A Christmas Story" as the theme. The materials used can all be found in a standard craft box. Templates for the nutcracker and mouse were designed by ExtraCare for the children to cut and stick.

A variety of materials allowed the children to work creatively. It also provided the realisation that to create a wonderful Christmas Tree you don't need a lot of money just a spark of imagination some paper, sparkles and feathers. They've enjoyed participating, as well as the opportunity for Christmas to bring everyone together.



### HOLLOW WOOD CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - KETTERING, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

These 28 houses on a street have come together and raised over £17,000 in 2 years. Working with local business, Bosworth garden centre, they've used some of their lighting equipment. Working this way, they control the traffic and that means a safe environment for visitors.

An intense depth of colour and imagination have gone into the display to ensure that the thousands of visitors have something new to see. Their ethos is "come one, come all", as some houses have an amazing amount of lights, where others keep to a more traditional simple approach. Many visitors come to Hollow Wood Road repeatedly and this comradery has brought the community together.

To hear the sounds of families making Christmas memories and the excitement in the children's voices knowing that they've helped make this a good year for all, is truly rewarding. The generosity has allowed donations to charities and provide the town with 2 Defibrillators that serve as a reminder to what we can achieve together.

### LANSDOWNE ROAD LIGHTS - BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE

For this display, the whole street has come together and spent 3 weeks putting lights up around the community. They've said that community spirit has never been so high. The local papers have interviewed them on this Christmas-crammed street, and it has also featured on ITV central news.

This is all in aid of Macmillan cancer research and the response to the collection has been very positive. In particular, the general public has said they enjoy the inflatable snowmen and the children love the Santa figurines (of which there are many), but overall, the 3,000 lights running down the street have proven to be a big hit.

So far in the community, the display's organisers have noticed people taking videos and photos, sharing them on social media and families who have come back several times with friends and family members to share the joy!



### KINETON CHRISTMAS TREE TRAIL - KINETON, WARWICKSHIRE

This is an amazing community effort to create a Christmas tree trail displaying over 300 individually decorated trees throughout the village. Each tree is themed on a book, ranging from Mary Berry's Cookbook, to the Lion The Witch and the Wardrobe. The trail maps raise money for two local charities, the KSSC and St Peters Church.

The idea of the display is to engage the whole village, and the kids in particular, to hunt for trees and tick them off on the trail guide. It's interactive fun for the whole family.

People have visited from far and wide, not just from the local area, this has boosted local businesses. The designs have caught the eye of the Coventry and Warwickshire Radio and the BBC West Midlands News too, who hope to spread the word of this festive fun.

### TENBY DAY CENTRE - TENBY, PEMBROKESHIRE

The Tenby Day Centre Christmas display has been tenderly put together by the special customers who attend the Day Centre Monday to Friday. The centre have a small team, so having everyone come together has made all the difference to the Christmas cheer for this year.

The children have shown so much interest in the bright and beautiful decorations and the centre have been proud to say that everyone has had a hand in making it so wonderful. The onsite 3 wonderful carers and the centre's driver have also exclaimed how it's added to the overall environment in the run-up to the big day.

The centre now plans to put out a display every year and have already asked for donation towards next year's efforts. Some of the team hope to start raising money for charities too.

## BEST FRONT DOOR

PRIZES: JUDGES CHOICE: NEW FRONT DOOR WORTH £1,500

PUBLIC VOTE: 1ST: £100, 2ND: £50

Spread some festivity to anyone who graces your doorstep with homemade wreaths, festive door hangings and garland-draped doorframes. Awarding the most dazzling of front door displays, judges for this category are holding out for doors demonstrating the wonderfully warm tones of winter alongside spectacular seasonal sparkle. Displays entered for this category are given two chances to win; submissions will be entered for public vote as well as going forward for the judge's favourite choice.



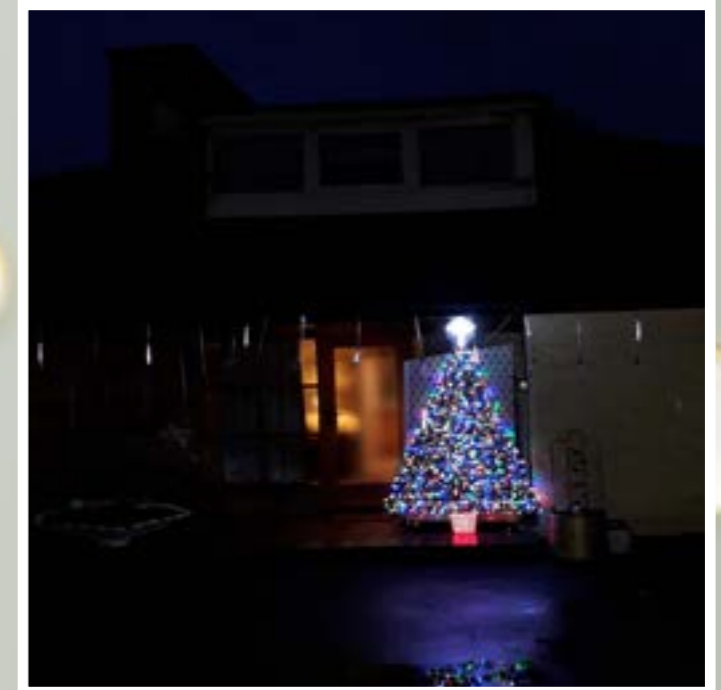


### CHEWTON COMMON PLAYGROUP- RED ROBIN - GREENWAYS, HIGHCLIFFE

This playgroup gathered inspiration for their display from the local robin who flies into their garden most mornings. The children have decorated their front door with robin-themed drawings to welcome the bird during the festive season.

Each child painted a robin and attached them to the door and, as a class project, they've added a bird feeder and decorated it, as well as arrange their garden pots to accommodate for more robins. A log pile is in place to invite food for the robin to eat, like creepy crawlies, and this is all finished off with festive tinsel and baubles.

Parents have loved the display, commenting on how festive it looks as well appreciating the fact that not all members of the group might celebrate Christmas and so it has taken focus on the wildlife instead. As well as this, the teachers from the school have come to view it and share in the festive display. It has definitely cheered up the white door which is the first thing that greets the families every morning.



### FESTIVE DIY CABINET- THE GREEN, WEST GRAYTON

This door display has been created to appeal to all age groups. The design has been constructed for easy reuse and storage each year too. The two main features of the design are: a foil blanket for the Christmas tree which is then adorned with lights, and the cabinet depicting a snowy scene with imitation snow falling.

The snow fall is said to have been a tricky feature to organise. Firstly in finding a suitable material for the snow, and, secondly, when designing the mechanism to allow one shower fan to suck the snow in and blow it out in a different direction. But the finished product is quite effective.

This is the first year this household have made a display and they've found people's comments nothing but supportive and complimentary. Every one that has seen the display have been fascinated by the constant falling snow, a feat of ingenuity that the organisers are very proud of.



### KLS CHRISTMAS DISPLAY - HAYDOCK, MERSEY SIDE

This garland archway welcomes people into the property with the inflatable doorway welcoming into the house. The inflatable Father Christmas is a real eye catcher for people passing by, if the garland arch hasn't already done that! This is the first year their decorations have been put up with the hope to collect money for charity. And there's a switch on event planned for next year!

Whilst constructing the display in October, the household received a warm response from passers-by and one member of the local public even donated money to the cause months in advance.

The display is a joy to behold from the inside, the homeowners can watch on as people enjoy the bright and festive sights, especially from the local children who pass by on their way to school.

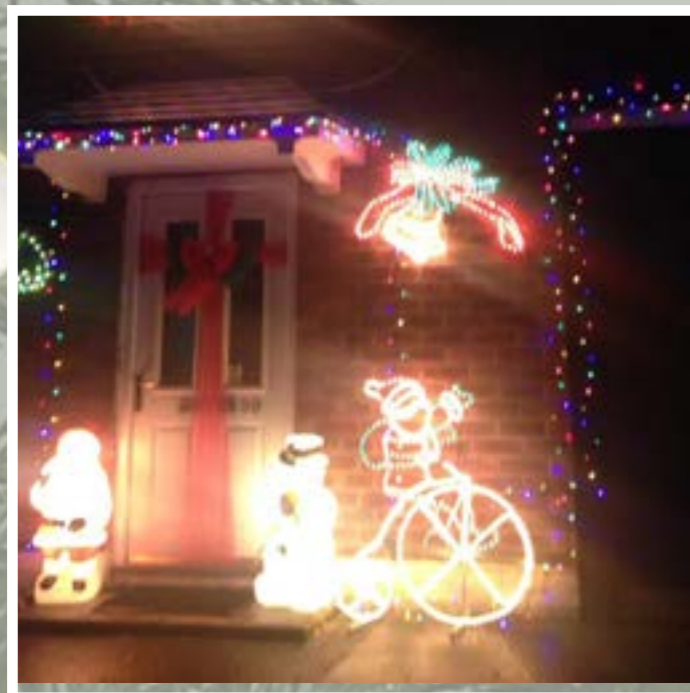


### CHRISTMAS KELTIC ARCH - OLD FORT LODGE, CRAIGAVON

These two archways have been combined to create a lovely Christmas arch into the property. Reminiscent of the Keltic dreams of entry into the otherworld by passing under an arch.

This display also has influences from traditions where people would tie a piece of clothing to the last tree they passed when travelling over a mountain for good luck. And so this creation is built on living history, both Keltic and Germanic.

People have been very impressed with the door display, especially the local children. It sets the house apart from others on the street and has quickly become a talking point when friends enter the property and with people who pass by.



### THOMPSON'S DOOR - BROOKLANDS, MANCHESTER

This year, this family's home has a new addition in the form of a bright green wreath with a stunning red bow. With the hopes of bringing some festive cheer to the area, the display also has a Santa on a bike who peddles away next to the front door.

The local children are familiar with the set up and come around for sweets and freebies. As the house is situated directly on a school route, people often stop to take photographs and the house has begun to gather a real following.

Over the years, the family have been asked many times about their electric bill but their passion to put on a show hasn't wavered because of the children who smile and are filled with the excitement of Christmas when they see it. Not to mention the cheery sights that greet each family member every day when they get home.

### COAD'S COLOURFUL CHRISTMAS DOOR - SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE

This front door display is all about greeting friends and neighbours with a rainbow of Christmas colour and so they have organised a display that's choc-full of it. Mainly, the display is constructed each year for the enjoyment of the home's residents and family members, putting a smile on their faces as they return home for the day. A team effort, the display is constructed in a day and the children are a huge part of putting it all together.

The family kids and those in the community are particularly fond of light-up reindeer. The vibrantly framed door - also a big hit with the local kids and cars often slow down and even stop to take a look as they pass by.

Overall, the community is very supportive of the display growing in size every year and bring their loved ones by to some and drink in the festive sights.





### SANTA'S DOOR- KILMARNOCK, AYRSHIRE

This big, bold Santa door cannot be missed. It has been designed by the whole family, with the kids hand making every part of Santa's outfit. His face has been hand drawn and his beard, hair and eyebrows are made completely of cotton wool.

The famed black belt is fashioned from cardboard and carefully painted by the children, whilst the ruby red suit - that is synonymous with Christmas - had been put together so that it covers the entire door in velvet.

The family have said that couriers coming to deliver Christmas deliveries have absolutely loved the door and some have said it puts a smile on their face at a busy time of year. The kids are joyous to bring their friends over to see the fun and funky design they created from scratch and it's a big hit with the whole community.



### JAMIE'S BOWTASTIC DOOR - LIGHTCLIFFE, HALIFAX

This is a simplistic display that has a real Christmas feel and a lot of heart. The not-to-be-missed door bow and multicoloured lights give a real element of nostalgia and Christmases gone by.

The bow is made from satin and has been lovingly homemade by the homeowners. The display doesn't stop there though, the two reindeer heads either side also light up and at night it looks really eye-catching.

The neighbours have shown a real interest in the decorative additions and love the display so much that they've started putting up lights on their own properties. These homeowners are proud that their unusual design has managed to spread joy to others during the winter season.

## BEST CHILDREN'S WINDOW DISPLAY

PRIZES: JUDGES CHOICE: 1ST: £200, 2ND: £125, 3RD £75

RUNNER UP: £25

PUBLIC VOTE: 1ST: £100, 2ND: £50

This Christmas, the 'Best Children Window Display' category encourages children to get creative to win our judges over. We're looking for awe-inspiring displays where children have crafted their windows into a winter wonderland; illuminating ledges with lanterns, adorning sills with artful embellishment or framing them in festive foliage. Displays entered for this category are given two chances to win as submissions will be entered for public vote as well as going forward for the judge's favourite choice. Entrants must be under 12 years of age.





### WINTER DEER PARK - STEVENAGE, HERTFORDSHIRE

This display was lovingly created by the homeowner's Grandson. With an eye for arts and crafts, the colourful patchwork deer that takes centre stage was handmade by him and so the rest of the display has been carefully built around this delightful deer. This little boy has also chosen each and every one of the light up decorations and had great fun adding all the elements into the display.

The design really adds cheer to the front of the home now and can be seen from the road so everybody who has seen it has revelled in how delightful it is. Local people are especially complimentary of the big reindeer and bauble tree.

Watching their Grandson create this festive display on his own has been a really special start to the Christmas period for the rest of the family and it's brought a smile to their face whenever they catch a glimpse too.



### TREASURE TROVE CHRISTMAS- TINTINHULL, SOMERSET

This enchanting display is sure to have been a massive hit with the children. Created by the resident's two nieces, this year they have made a devotedly designed display centered around their favourite Disney princess, the Little Mermaid... a magical tail!

This under-sea sensation, is themed in bright blue, pinks and purples to really grab your attention. It's called a 'treasure trove' because it looks a lot like buried treasure under the sea and is finished with sparkling, glittery streams of paper as a backdrop to make it look like the sea.

As something a bit different, this window display has been a big hit with their friends and even the local kids stop to wonder in its magic and mystery.



### THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS - DROITWICH, WORCESTERSHIRE

This home belongs to a little boy who loves Christmas and loves spending time spotting Christmas lights out of the window. Three-year-old, Harrison, created this display at the front of the house to greet Daddy as he comes home from work, and it was a special surprise for him this year.

The display shows festive presents under the windowsill and colourful lights all around the frame. In the middle of the display is a wicker reindeer who has taken centre stage to "look after the house while Daddy's away".

So far, the display, with its green glowing lanterns, candles and miniature figurines has brought this household so much joy and put a smile on the face of not only the family who lives here but neighbours, the local postman and visitors too; doing a great job of spreading fun and festivity this year.



### WINTER IN THE FOREST - HEREFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE

Emma's daughter wanted to create a winter forest for passers-by. With the help of her mum, she was able to make her window display with snowflakes from paper and a white wonderful tree.

The Santa, snowman and reindeer were handmade and painted from empty toilet rolls, while the snow is foam packaging, which she's reused from her Christmas deliveries and added to the display to create a winter wonderland for all to enjoy.

There's also a cheery robin sitting upon the highest shelf to set the scene of a wistful woodland. So far, it has been well received by anyone who's seen it and really goes to show how you can reuse items to great effect.