

Count down is on to the Harrogate Christmas Market!

The count down is underway for the Harrogate Christmas Market, which is expected to attract even more visitors than last year's 60,000 into the Town Centre.

Once again it is being held on Montpellier area of the Stray, running from 16 to 19 November. Now in its 6th year it attracts visitors both locally and from right across the UK.

Last week saw the Christmas Market Committee meet in the Crown Hotel to finalise the plans.

Brian & Beryl Dunsby, Organisers of the Market chaired a large meeting, testament to the local support the event has gained.

Brian said:

A lot of work has gone into the event already and the 200 stalls are nearly completely booked. It will be a similar format to previous years with a mix of Christmas gifts, house wares, clothes, food, drink and entertainment - with Santa and his reindeer too.

We have also worked with North Yorkshire Police and so visitors should feel re-assured that there will be a higher police presence than in previous years. That's just consistent with the great level of support they are providing at all major outdoor events.

It remains a quintessentially Yorkshire Christmas Market, supporting both local suppliers and local businesses in Harrogate and District.

The Harrogate Christmas Market relies on many people to support the event, both in all the work going into the organisation and during the market itself.

Vice-Chairman Steve Scarre is organising the team of voluntary Market Makers together with Alex Morrow and he says that they are looking for more volunteers this year.

Steve said:

The Market Makers provide a vital role during the market. They are the ones that meet the stall holders and help them setup. Also many of the stall holders are individuals, so rely on the Market Makers to allow them to have breaks during each day.

Market Makers are the ones that help provide a friendly face for the town and they direct people to the areas of the Market or the town that they may be looking for.

We are looking for more support though. I am putting a timetable of the current volunteers together and have a number of gaps where we need more help. Come along to be a friend and make a friend!

To contact the Market Organisers to offer support as a volunteer or to bring a group please:

email info@HarrogateChristmasMarket.org or call 01423 879208.