

THIS Christmas IN DARWEN

SHOPPING & EVENTS GUIDE

FESTIVE
EVENTS

FOOD &
DRINK

SHOP
LOCAL

XMAS
GIFTS



TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	SHOP LOCAL THIS CHRISTMAS: DARWEN'S INDEPENDENT RETAILERS
12	FOR EVERYTHING YOU NEED THIS CHRISTMAS: DARWEN MARKET
24	DON'T BE ALONE THIS CHRISTMAS: COME TOGETHER AT DELI CARLO
26	FESTIVE FOOD
28	WHAT'S ON GUIDE
30	COMPETITIONS

This Christmas in Darwen support local traders, retailers, restaurants, cafes and bars and help our community thrive. 2019 has seen new retailers open, popular traders expand and some fantastic free events.

This Christmas Darwen has everything you need from locally sourced food to handmade gifts and delicious festive treats. Vintage clothing, ladies fashion and everything crafty. Plus parking is free in our town centre!

With a packed programme of festive events, you'll soon be in the Christmas spirit...

SHOP LOCAL

Darwen has an abundance of independent shops both in the town centre and spread around the town. Bridge Street in particular is now home to a range of unique gift, craft, food and beauty shops.

New store Corkee is just around the corner on Bolton Road and of course the traders of Darwen Market stock a fantastic range of handmade, home made and local specialities at Christmas.

Offering a fantastic range of gifts, foods and drinks you'll find that your local high street this year doesn't just offer you the best quality products but also the cheapest. Speaking with our retailers they share with us the tricks of the trade that help them offer the best prices to you. Just another reason to shop local this year and support our fantastic traders.



SHOP LOCAL AND MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO REAL PEOPLE THIS CHRISTMAS. FROM SECRET SANTA GIFTS TO A TURKEY FIT FOR A FESTIVE FEAST, DARWEN HAS EVERYTHING YOU NEED AND MORE.



Belgrave Bootique is the creation of sister owner's Janet and Joanna. Originally based in one of the tram shelters on Bolton Road, the business has now expanded into larger premises on Bridge Street. Their success is easy to understand as soon as you see the huge range of shoes, jewellery, bags and clothing on offer.

Passionate about independent shops, they themselves shop local in Darwen wherever they can and try to make sure what they offer in their store is unique and complimentary to others.

They began selling accessories, sourcing the best quality and keeping prices low. Shoes in particular brought women to the store looking for something fashionable and stylish. Since opening over 3 years ago they have expanded into clothing which is why they simply had to move to a bigger shop this year. A wonderful store and a must visit this Christmas!





By Erin gift shop has an abundance of hand made and luxury gift items. From Jelly Cat soft toys to Katie Loxton candles and bags plus handmade jewellery, home accessories and a great range of cards.

Perhaps one of the best known shops in Darwen, By Erin is well worth a visit this Christmas. You'll find something sentimental and all together gorgeous in this store.

And if you like getting crafty then By Erin also has a craft workshop next door where you can come along and make your own gifts. Children and adults alike are welcome to decorate baubles, santa plates and more.

Open every day except Tuesday and Sunday, if you've not yet been inside By Erin we encourage you to give it a try. You won't be disappointed.





Corkee is a newly opened gift shop on Bolton Road but has been in business for a few years already. They manufacture scented crystals - an alternative to wax melts - and the products use recycled materials or have recyclable packaging.

The store opened in June of this year and stocks a range of gift and home items from local makers. Think vintage toys, hand-made trinkets and gorgeous home accessories. Stock changes regularly so this is a place you want to come back to again and again.

We particularly liked the amythest dream catcher and childrens light up bag. With Christmas on the way they have a great range of baubles, festive decorations and gifts. The first year in a new shop is always challenging and we'd love to see this one succeed so please do call in to see all they offer!





My vintage is packed full of original vintage clothes, shoes and accessories from the 20s onwards. This is the perfect store for vintage fashion lovers and those that like to stand out from the crowd!

My Vintage also stock a large selection of designer vintage clothing from the likes of Hermes, Chanel, Christian Dior, YSL, Karl Lagerfeld, Versace, Armani, Pierre Balmain, Ossie Clark, Mary Quant, Biba and many, many more. Recycle, help the environment, be unique and look fabulous!

Plus this December My Vintage are offering a free gift with every purchase! Just tell them you saw the offer here in the Darwen Town Centre shopping guide to redeem the offer.



FOR EVERYTHING YOU NEED THIS Christmas



DARWEN MARKET

PREPARE FOR A FESTIVE FEAST

Jams and chutney, cheese, sweet treats or a 10lb Turkey, whatever's on your shopping list we've got you covered.

- WOODS FRUIT AND VEG
- TURNER'S BUTCHERS
- LEEMING'S BUTCHERS
- RUSHTONS THE BACON STALL
- TEASE YOUR TASTEBUDS
- DELI CARLO
- GILLY'S THE SANDWICH STALL
- S PARR AND SON

GIFTS & STOCKING FILLERS

Handmade gifts, do it yourself crafts and great value stocking fillers. And don't forget your pet! There's plenty for them too...

- PERU2U
- CANDY RUSH
- STEFF'S PETS
- SWEET VINTAGE
- BUTTERFLIES (CLOTHING)
- PETALS
- PERCIVAL PICTURES
- GOLD AND TIMES
- MAKING MEMORIES HABERDASHERY
- MOTHERGOOSE GIFTS, CARDS & BALLOONS

CHRISTMAS PARTY PREP

Now is the time to book in for a beauty treat, invest in some statement jewellery or bring back your favourite footwear.

- PERFECT NAILZ
- GOLD AND TIMES
- SNIPZ HAIR
- PERU2U
- HAIRMARKET
- STITCH
- THE COBBLERS

CHRISTMAS HOME DECOR

Don't get your tinsel in a twist, we've got what you need to get your home looking festive and fabulous...

- JEAN'S BLINDS
- PETALS
- MAKING MEMORIES HABERDASHERY
- THE CHRISTMAS STALL (MOTHERGOOSE)
- PERCIVAL PICTURES

INDULGE IN SOME TASTY TREATS WHILST YOU SHOP...

- THE SWEET VINTAGE TEA ROOM
- STEVE'S PLACE
- MEETING PLACE
- DELI CARLO
- TEASE YOUR TASTEBUDS
- GILLY'S THE SANDWICH STALL
- RUSHTON'S THE BACON STALL

FOODIE FAVOURITES

Food lovers will find everything they could dream of in Darwen this year at Darwen Market.

Deli Carlo has a fantastic range of unique nibbles, treats and deli items.

Sweet Vintage is already taking orders for their popular sweet boxes, tree decorations and Holden's festive ice cream flavours.

Plus inside the market hall you'll find everything from crumbly and creamy cheese to speciality pate and made to order hampers.



SPECIALITY BISCUITS, DELI CARLO



SWEET BOXES, SWEET VINTAGE



BALSAMIC SET, DELI CARLO



PROCTOR'S CHEESE SET, S PARR & SON



PATE & CHUTNEY SET, GILLY'S STALL



HOLDEN'S ICE CREAM, SWEET VINTAGE



The big day feast is perhaps the most anticipated meal of the year. Whether you sit down to enjoy turkey, beef, duck, goose or a nutroast you can find everything you need at Darwen Market.

Woods Fruit and Veg is famous for it's fresh, tasty, long lasting produce perfect for the Christmas holidays when all you want to do is hybernate and eat.

S Parr & Son and Gilly's the Sandwich Stall have a fantastic range of cooked produce, cheese, pate and chutneys. Local and regional specialities of the highest quality bring customers from across the county.

Tease your Tastebuds, Rushton's the Bacon Stall, Leemings Butchers and Turners Butchers are perhaps some of the most popular stalls on the market and for good reason. If a full stomach is the way to happiness then these traders will make you very happy this festive season.



Darwen market has so many gift ideas it's hard to pick out just a few. The food stalls rival the best farmers markets in the North West with locally sourced, hand selected produce and regional specialities. As well as everything you need for the big feast, these stalls have some lovely gift sets perfect for the foodie in your family.

Whilst food is always an attraction, Darwen Market also brings customers in for the top quality services at Stitch, The Cobblers, Perfect Nailz and Hairmarket. A beauty treatment or reinvention of a favourite pair of shoes or item of clothing could be the perfect gift for you or a friend.

Of course there is also a fantastic range of affordable gifts at the market from festive homeware and novelties to sentimental gifts, sweets galore and even something for your pet.



DOG TOYS, STEFF'S PETS



FESTIVE GIFTS, THE CHRISTMAS STALL



CRAFT BAUBLES, MAKING MEMORIES



RANGE OF BAGS, BUTTERFLIES



OWL BAG, PERU2U



FESTIVE TOILET ROLL, MAKING MEMORIES



READING CUSHION, MAKING MEMORIES



PANETTONE & SETS, DELI CARLO



PICTURES & FRAMES, PERCIVAL PICTURES



JEWELLERY, GOLD & TIMES



MR FITZPATRICKS, TEASE YOUR TASTEBUDS



FESTIVE CUPS, MOTHERGOOSE STALL



RANGE OF LAMPS, JEAN'S BLINDS



SWEET JARS, CANDY RUSH



CANDLES, MOTHERGOOSE STALL



SALT LAMP, PERU2U

THE CHRISTMAS STALL

Inside Darwen Market is a Christmas Stall packed with everything you could possibly need from wrapping paper and cards to decorations, Elf on the Shelf and plenty of great gifts.

The stall operated by Mothergoose Cards, Gifts and Balloons is a fantastic festive addition to the market. In true Mothergoose fashion you can find a wide range of cards and gifts from the humorous to heartwarming.

This is a must visit stall this Christmas!



FESTIVE DECORATIONS, CARDS, WRAPPING PAPER, GIFT BAGS, GIFT TAGS, FESTIVE MUGS, PLUS A HUGE RANGE OF GIFTS FROM THE HUMOROUS TO THE SENTIMENTAL. YOU'LL FIND IT ALL ON THE CHRISTMAS STALL





Laura had an amazing job that saw her travelling the world and working for a company she loved, so why give that up to take on this sweet shop and tea room?

“I always had the plan to do this in 10 years but when I saw Becky was selling I decided to have a conversation with her and things went from there. I thought there was real potential now the market square work has completed and new businesses are opening up in Darwen.

The customers here are lovely, the genuinely care about me and the shop. Also I live in Darwen and see much more of my family now that they can nip into the shop to see me during the day.”

Laura gave the shop a mini makeover before reopening and has introduced many new items including hot beef or turkey sandwiches for winter. You will find a great range catering for those with Coeliac Disease, something close to Laura’s heart given her own struggles with it.

Fans of Holdon’s Ice Cream will be delighted to learn you can now order your ice cream from the sweet shop as they have become the only stockist in town.







Deli Carlo has to be one of the most popular cafes in town and has a loyal fan base in and around Darwen thanks to it's authentic Italian offer.

Recently changing hands, the new owners Jackie and Steven have maintained the fantastic offer we all know and love whilst adding some wonderful new ranges. The deli looks better than ever and this Christmas you will find a huge range of food related gifts.

The balsamic oil range is perfect for parties or as a great gift in the box set. Choose the three flavours you love to personalise the set. Steven recommends trying the sweet flavours over ice cream.

If you're looking for the ultimate food lovers gift then have your very own hamper made up full of all your favourites. A personal and delicious gift!





DON'T BE ALONE THIS CHRISTMAS DAY, COME ALONG TO DELI CARLO FOR A FREE COFFEE.

Anyone feeling alone or homeless
this Christmas is welcome to visit
Deli Carlo between 9am and 12pm
for a free coffee and slice of
Panettone.





WINTER WARMERS, FREEDOM ORGANIC

Darwen has an abundance of eateries bringing people from across the county. Outside of the town centre you'll find everything from Indian to Chinese, Italian and traditional pub grub. But inside our town centre are some popular independents that really shine when it comes to cuisine and of course they all have that Darwen friendly service.

Freedom Organic is the perfect pit stop whilst festive shopping for some heartwarming, belly filling food that's as delicious as it is healthy. A popular place for Vegans and food lovers alike.

Taps Bar on Railway Road is well known for it's food and the Christmas menu is now available with options for kids too.

Artisan cafe and wine bar you'll find on Bridge Street and Deli Carlo you'll find at Darwen Market.



CHRISTMAS PLATTERS, TAPS BAR



FESTIVE AFTERNOON TEA, ARTISAN



ITALIAN CHRISTMAS, AMALFI LOUNGE



ITALIAN CLASSICS, DELI CARLO



EVENTS GUIDE



FRI 29 NOV
ST JAMES' LOWER DARWEN
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL CHOIR
DARWEN MARKET, 10–11AM

ST. JOSEPH'S R.C. PRIMARY
SCHOOL CHOIR DARWEN MARKET, 1–2PM

SAT 30 NOV
MAGICAL STORY JARS -
SUPER ELF
DARWEN MARKET, 12–3PM

Design your very own 'Super Elf' to help Santa make toys for you and all the other children across the world. What superpower would your elf have? How would it look and what his or her job in Santa's' workshop be?

EVERY SATURDAY FROM 30 NOV,
PLUS CHRISTMAS EVE
SANTA'S GROTTO WITH
DARWEN ROTARY

DARWEN MARKET,
FOR OPENING TIMES SEE DARWENTOWNCENTRE.CO.UK
Visit Santa at his Grotto inside Darwen Market on the 30th Nov, 7th, 14th, 21st & 24th December. Children get the chance to meet Santa, have their picture taken and receive a Christmas gift. (Charges apply.)

SAT 16 NOV – SAT 21 DEC
DARWEN MARKET GALLERY

Darwen Market is hosting its first exhibition packed with artwork from local artists. There is a variety of mediums on display and everyone is welcome to come and view the artwork. For those looking for a different gift this Christmas or a new piece of artwork for your own home, look no further the artwork is also for sale. Please visit darwentowncentre.co.uk for more information.

FRI 6 DEC
AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHOIR DARWEN MARKET, 1.30–2PM

SAT 7 DEC
CHRISTMAS MAGIC SHOW &
CHRISTMAS CRAFTY CORNER
DARWEN MARKET, 12–3PM

Brian our fabulous magician returns for a spectacular end of the season show! Prepare to be dazzled by the show and unleash your creativity in our Christmas themed Crafty Corner.

MON 9 – TUE 24 DEC
PINOCCHIO

DARWEN LIBRARY THEATRE (VARIOUS TIMES)
Presented by George Critchley for PMA Productions in association with Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council. Supported by Zoe Taylor Dance Academy (Blackburn) and ENCORE Dance Academy (Colne).

Pinocchio - a fun-filled family pantomime for the festive season. Join us this Christmas as this much-loved classic tale comes to Darwen Library Theatre in this ultimate Christmas Comedy Musical.

THU 12 DEC
AVONDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHOIR DARWEN MARKET, 1.30–2PM

FRI 13 DEC
SUDELL PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHOIR DARWEN MARKET, 10–11AM

HOLY TRINITY C OF E PRIMARY
SCHOOL CHOIR DARWEN MARKET, 1–1.30PM

SAT 14 DEC
EVERYTHING CHRISTMASSY AT
DARWEN MARKET
DARWEN MARKET, 8–5PM

It's time for some festive shopping and it doesn't get more fun than this! A packed market full of pop up gift stalls, christmas carols, crafts and festive food.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL
INTERACTIVE THEATRE
DARWEN MARKET, 12–3PM

Join Madame Scrooge for a full immersive Drama Workshop as you learn a short scene from The Christmas Carol to perform to your audience at the end of the class.

BLACKBURN PEOPLE'S CHOIR
DARWEN MARKET, 2PM & 3PM

LET'S MAKE CHRISTMAS
WREATHS

DARWEN MARKET, 12–3PM
Get creative and come along and make your own wreath for Christmas.

WED 18 DEC
BRAMBLES EAST BAND
CHRISTMAS SHOWCASE
DARWEN MARKET, 11–11.30AM

Following the success of their previous showcases, students from Brambles East will be showcasing their talents with a live performance in Darwen Market. They will be performing for half an hour and are inviting people to come along to watch!

LATE NIGHT OPENING
DARWEN MARKET, 8AM–8PM

Join us for a mulled wine, a glass of fizz, cheese & mince pies and be entertained as you shop until you drop.

SAT 21 DEC
MAGICAL STORY JARS -
SNOWBOW SPECTACULAR
DARWEN MARKET, 12–3PM

Design a Christmas Snowbow. What would your Christmas Snowbow look like? What conditions would you need for the rainbow to appear over the skies of Darwen? How would it smell and what colours would it be made up of? Most importantly, what would you find at the end of it?

SALVATION ARMY BAND
DARWEN MARKET, 1–3PM

SUN 22 DEC
SUNDAY OPENING
DARWEN MARKET, 10AM–3PM

TUE 24 DEC
CHRISTMAS EVE OPENING
DARWEN MARKET, 8AM–3PM

TUE 31 DEC
NEW YEAR'S EVE OPENING
DARWEN MARKET, 8AM–3PM

In addition to the programme above there will be choirs and brass bands performing on each Saturday in December at Darwen Market.

FOR UP TO DATE EVENT
DETAILS VISIT
DARWENTOWNCENTRE.CO.UK

CRACKING COMPETITIONS

WIN A FESTIVE FEAST
CHRISTMAS DINNER
WORTH £50

WIN A FESTIVE BREAKFAST
WORTH £25

PLUS WIN PRIZES EVERY DAY
IN DECEMBER WITH DARWEN
MARKET.

FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK
@DARWENMARKETS @DARWENTC



WISHING YOU A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A FABULOUS
NEW YEAR.

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