

Christmas in Lewisham 2023: Useful Services, Free Meals and Free Food

Put together by Good Food Lewisham and Community Connections. Last updated 6th December.

Please contact helen@lewishamlocal.com. The list will be updated online here:

<https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/post/christmas-in-lewisham-2023-useful-services-free-meals-and-free-food>

General Services

Lewisham Council

Customer Service Centre [020 8314 6000](tel:02083146000) - open every day, 24/7

Crisis Mental Health Line

(South London and Maudsley 24 hour mental health support line)

0800 731 2864 – open every day, 24/7

Advice Lewisham

Closed from 20th December and reopen on January 3rd

0800 231 5453

Social services Gateway

Open till 4pm on Xmas eve, and on the 27th, 28th and 29th. On other dates staffed by Emergency Duty Team.

Out of hours number is **020 8314 6000**

Pharmacy

Rushey Green Pharmacy, Primary Care Centre, Hawstead Road, SE6 4JH.

Open:

Sunday 24th December - 5.30pm – 8.30pm

Monday 25th December - 10am -6pm

Tuesday 26th December – 10am-2pm

Sunday 31st December – 5.30-8.30pm

Monday 1st January 2024 – 10am – 2pm

020 3049 1790

Children & Young People:

HAF (Children's Winter Holiday Programme – activities and free lunch at multiple venues)

Free activities and lunches for school-aged children and young people aged 4–16 years who receive benefit related Free School Meals.

21st Dec – 5th Jan 2023

hafprogramme@lewisham.gov.uk

Download the booklet to find an activity programme for your family:

<https://www.lewishamcfc.org.uk/lewisham-winter-holiday-food-and-fun/>

Community Connections Lewisham

Phoneline open until 4pm on Friday 22nd December and re-opens Tuesday 2nd January at 9.30am

Lewisham Donation Hub

Unit D, PLACE/Ladywell, SE13 6AY

See website for up-to-date information <https://lewishamdonationhub.org/>

Food, clothing, home essentials. They offer a range of fresh and frozen foods, and a more limited selection of non-perishables, toiletries, women's essentials and incontinency pads. No booking required but do check the website for important service information as it is weather dependent www.lewishamdonationhub.org

DWP

Forest Hill Job Centre is closed 25-27th December and 1st January 2024.

Good Gym

Please make last referrals before 3pm on **Fri 22nd**. Referrals re-open **27th** until 3pm on **29th** and from Tuesday **2nd Jan**. Missions continue every day but need to be requested in advance.

Silver Line

The Silver Line Helpline offers conversation and is open 365 days a year 24 hours

0800 470 8090

Food Services

See Good Food Lewisham's list of free and cheap food for information on general food provision:

https://www.goodfoodlewisham.org/files/ugd/7db68e_c5b789cc630e4929aee927e87451bf11.pdf

Free Christmas Meals

These community organisations and businesses offer a free meal or food support for people who might be spending Christmas on their own or may be struggling financially and need emergency food. Details can change so please contact the project directly to double-check.

There's a programme of Warm Welcomes from December - March some of which will be offering hot food - we'll be sharing details of these very soon.

Before Christmas

Telegraph Hill Centre

Kitto Road, SE14 5TY

Not free. Christmas Meal **Thursday 14th December**. Get in touch by 10th if you're interested in attending and specify the traditional/vegetarian/gluten free/other dietary requirements. The meal will be £8 and include drinks, Christmas crackers, pudding, raffle. Contact: branchingout@thcentre.com.

FoodCycle Lewisham

Lewisham Irish Community Centre, SE6 4AS

The last meals of the year will be on **Saturday 16th** and **Wednesday 20th December**. We will be returning on the 3rd January. They are now providing meals on Wednesdays as well as the usual Saturdays. Both days are **1.30 - 3pm**.

The Feast at King's Church Catford

Catford Hill, SE6 4PS

Dinner on every Wednesday, including **Wednesday 20th December at 7pm**.

Warm Welcome every Thursday 10am - 12pm.

Rehoboth Community Outreach

Ray Champion Room, 1-18 Allwood Close, Sydenham, SE26 4JP.

Christmas Dinner is Thursday 21st from 11am. Collection only.

Open on Sunday Christmas Eve 24th December 5pm – 10pm.

Closed 25th & 26th Dec and 1st & 2nd Jan.

Pie n Mash/The Field

Christmas meal at Deptford Square (opposite Deptford Lounge, corner of Giffin Street and Deptford High Street) on **Thursday 21st December from 2.30 pm**, all welcome. Groceries and food distributed 1-3.30pm. Closed on Thursday 28th.

Christ Church United Reformed Church Bellingham

15 Bellingham Green, London SE6 3HQ

Christmas Meal Friday 22nd December 12.30 - 1.30, followed by various activities until 4.30pm. Three course, traditional Christmas dinner. They will cater for special diets and ask people about this at the time of booking. They can cater for up to 40 places at each dinner so you need to book in advance - contact Fiona Thomas on [07905889260](tel:07905889260) or info@ftconsults.co.uk.

Ichthus Community Table

Ichthus Lee Green, 23 Lampmead Rd, London SE12 8QJ

Christmas dinner on **22nd December at 1.30pm**

They are doing food hamper deliveries on Christmas Eve and people can sign up for one by coming in-person to the meal project one Friday between now and the 22nd of December.

Opening hours remain the same 1.30-3.30pm every Friday, except they will be closed for one week on 29th December.

Greater Faith Ministries

Leemore Centre, 29-31 Clarendon Rise, Lewisham, SE13 5EY Bonfield Road Entrance

Greater Faith Ministries Community Meal on **Friday 8th December 5-7pm**. Christmas Community Meal on **Friday 22nd December 5-7pm**.

Catford Soup Kitchen (UCKG Soup Kitchen)

UCKG Help Centre 1 Bromley Road Catford, SE6 2TS, 020 8698 3612

Open Saturdays 11am-1pm, continuing with provision of home cooked soup, meals, and surplus food such as sandwiches, bread and milk to choose from and takeaway. Meat and veg options.

Open over the Christmas period as usual. Christmas Lunch on **23rd December at 11 am – 1 pm** this will be sat down or take away.

Lewisham Salvation Army / Community Connections

Community Connections Transport are delivering **Meals on Wheels** in conjunction with Lewisham Salvation Army on **Saturday 23rd December**. Freshly made meals and goody bag will be delivered in the morning by volunteers.

To have access to the delivery an individual must be a Lewisham resident and be isolated over Christmas. To refer someone please signpost to the CCL phonenumber or ring yourself on 0330 058 3464 to provide details, dietary requirements and anything else we should know about the delivery.

Please understand that this is first come, first served as there is a limited number of these meals to go round, so signpost and refer as soon as you can to avoid disappointment.

Christmas Day

Honor Oak Community Centre: Love Fellowship

50 Turnham Road, SE4 2JD, 07957 198 304

Christmas Day 2 – 5pm a free Christmas meal for people in need on the estate.

To book your meal call **07957 198 304** or visit <https://www.greetingsisland.com/invites/rtp5441bg1vo>

Taste Soul Good and Cummin Up Caribbean takeaway

389 Lewisham High Street, SE13 6NZ, **0783 142 3163**

Provide a free hot festive meal on **25th Dec at 1pm**.

Boxing Day

Hill Station Cafe

Hill Station Cafe, Kitto Road, SE14 5TY

26th Dec open between 11 am and about 5pm for some basic hot drinks (instant coffee and tea-bag tea), squash and biscuits. **Not a meal.**

After Christmas

Christ Church United Reformed Church Bellingham

15 Bellingham Green, London SE6 3HQ

Friday 29th December lunch 12.30 - 1.30, followed by various activities until 4.30pm. Three course meal, with menu yet to be finalised. They will cater for special diets and ask people about this at the

time of booking. They can cater for up to 40 places at each dinner so you need to book in advance - contact Fiona Thomas on [07905889260](tel:07905889260) or info@ftconsults.co.uk

Other Food Provision around Christmas

AFRIL/Helping Hands Food Bank

St Peter's Church, Lee, SE12 8HQ

Last foodbank 9th Dec, with an extra one on 16th Dec and first foodbank of 2024 on 6th Jan. Closed 22nd Dec - 3rd Jan. Contact Helen food bank director on [07549031729](tel:07549031729) or foodbank@afril.org.uk. These are not drop in, they have limited places for agreed referrals. We accept referrals from organisations and individuals including self-referral. Referrals are assessed for priority based also on capacity.

Bank of Things Youth Fridge

Unit 19, Lewisham Shopping Centre, Molesworth Street SE13 7HB

Open Wednesdays and Fridays 3 - 5pm until Wed 20th. Then open again on Wednesday 3rd Jan. For young people aged 11 – 25. Distributing fresh fruit and other surplus foods.

Contact: Hannah hannah@lewishamlocal.com or [07726 350915](tel:07726350915)

Barley Loaves

The Ecclesia (London City Mission) 1 Cornmill Lane, Lewisham SE13 7FY

Providing food bags from outside, **alternating between men and women each week**. If there is food to spare at the end it's given to anyone regardless of gender.

We will be serving the public on **Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, both Sunday evenings from 8pm**. Not open on Mondays 25 December and 1 January and resume the Monday service on Monday 8 January 2024. barleyloaves@ecclesia.uk

Bear Church

The Shaftesbury Christian Centre, Frankham Street, SE8 4RN

Our last day will be the 17th Dec (last evening open this year) and then re-opening on the 7th January. We will be doing Carols and food in Griffin Square in the afternoon of 23rd Dec 3.30pm. Open to all (but not a food event).

Catford Fridge

Lewisham Irish Community Centre, SE6 4AS

Closed for two weeks over the Christmas period on 23rd and 30th December.

ChART Food Project

WG Grace Community Centre, 1 Lions Close, Grove Park SE9 4HG.

Wednesdays 10-11am

Open as usual over Christmas - Wed 20th Dec and Wed 3rd Jan. On **Wed 27th Dec will be operating a pre-packed bag pickup service**, all welcome but they won't have the same 'choose it yourself' setup.

Contact: info@chartbiglocal.org.uk and 020 8851 0174.

Downham Gleaning Pantry - Social Supermarket

Brook Lane Community Church, 27-29 Brook Lane, Bromley BR1 4PX

Open Fridays 9-1pm. Social Pantry for people on low incomes and affected financially in Downham. Residents pay a membership fee of £5 a week to choose from a variety of food. To book an appointment contact downhamaid@gmail.com

They will be closed on 29th Dec and will open as normal on 5th Jan. On 15th Dec they will have Santa giving out gifts to kids in the local and surrounding areas that have been donated by the public to accompany their Christmas present appeal.

Feed the Hill

367 New Cross Rd, London SE14 6AT

Deliveries of food boxes to housebound people in SE4, SE8 & SE14. Free to those self-isolating or experiencing food poverty. Boxes are nutritionally balanced, dietary needs catered for. Small social supermarket for people on low incomes (£2 per shop), no membership required, bring proof of address. For food box deliveries text 07748 713212 by the end of Saturday for the next week.

They run a small "social supermarket" on Wed 10am - noon for people on low incomes who may benefit from spending less on their weekly shop (£2 per shop, or free if you can't afford £2) no membership required, please bring proof of address.

The social supermarket will be **open on 27th Dec** for those who need it.

Felix Project

Open as usual except 25th, 26th December and 1st January.

Legendary Community Club

Foodbank finishes on Friday 22nd Dec and reopens 8th Jan.

Email legendaryclub@gmail.com or call/message Andra on 07581566004

Lewisham Foodbank

Multiple locations. Check their website for details: <http://www.lewisham.foodbank.org.uk/>

Closed after Friday 22nd until 8th January.

Rastafari Movement UK

RMUK wellbeing will be closed 25th Dec –1st Jan. Opens on 2nd Jan.

Offering African and Caribbean Cultural Foods, fresh fruits, veg and Ital emergency delivery and doorstep befriending service for vulnerable households in Lewisham, Lambeth and Southwark. Referrals can be made to rmukwellbeing@gmail.com Tel **07769813799**. Deliveries once a week Tuesday evening. Users must register. There is a £2 to £4 contribution required. For emergency food requests or to offer food donations, please call Chi on 07377871228 or Derwin on 07879652645

St Luke's Downham Front Room Club

St Luke's Downham, Northover, Bromley, BR1 5JR.

Shutting down from 22nd Dec and reopens 2nd Jan.

Sydenham Community Supermarket

Kelvin Grove Children Centre, Kelvin Grove, Sydenham SE26 6BB

Offering members low cost, healthy groceries for £3.50 a week. Run by residents for residents. People can turn up and register on the day.

Contact: **020 8613 0172 or 074438 88181**

Last shopping day is Thursday 21st December, re-open Thursday 4th Jan.

Victory Care Foodbank

157 - 159, Lewisham High Street, SE13 6AA

Open on 23rd, 24th and 31st Dec.

Word of Life Church, Grove Park

72A Mayeswood Road, SE12 9RP

Last day for the food bank/warm space will be Friday 22nd December. Re-open 5th January.