

# Calderdale News & Events

***The newsletter for older people & their families & friends  
from CALDERDALE FORUM 50 PLUS***



## Welcome to Calderdale Forum 50 Plus's December 2025 Newsletter

Welcome to our DECEMBER newsletter including a selection of the festive events taking place throughout the month. You can find a full range of news, social groups and a huge number of events for this month and also the new year as well on our website at: [www.calderdaleforum50plus.com/events-activities/](http://www.calderdaleforum50plus.com/events-activities/)

### WHAT'S ON – DECEMBER

**3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> | A Christmas Carol Rewritten.** Experience the magic of this favourite festive story, brought up-to-date in a feel-good treat at The Viaduct Theatre. Contact The Arches on 01422 365874 for tickets.

**5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> | The annual Christmas Tree Festival returns to Halifax Minster.** The festival is open from 10-4pm daily from Friday 5th December apart from on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> when it opens at 12pm.

**7<sup>th</sup> | Calderdale Heritage Walk: Victorian Halifax.** On this walk you will see some of the many fine buildings which celebrate the town's entrepreneurial spirit and civic pride. Meet Anne Kirker at 1.30pm at the top corner of Northgate House, at the Wade St entrance to the new Bus Station HX1 1UR.

**11<sup>th</sup> | Big Christmas Sing in Mytholmroyd.** Sing your favourite Christmas carols and find out about the work done by Hebden Royd Christian Aid while enjoying Festive fayre. 7pm at St. Michael's Church.

**11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> | Winter Tales @ Todmorden Hippodrome.** An enchanting evening of storytelling for all ages – a magical way to celebrate the season. Contact the box office on 0333 666 3366 for tickets.

**14<sup>th</sup> | Deck The Hall Christmas Concert.** Seasonal songs, poetry and prose performed by Out of the Box Singers, with drama and surprise as well as wonderful music. Tickets £12.50 from the Minster Shop.

**23<sup>rd</sup> | A gentle bike ride along the towpath to the Piece Hall.** Dig out your Christmas jumper, deck your bike with lights and join Colne Valley Cycle Therapy CIC in Brighouse from 10am to 1:30pm. For more details email [cvct.info@gmail.com](mailto:cvct.info@gmail.com)

**23rd | A showing of the classic film The Snowman in Halifax Minster.** The show will be accompanied by live music performed by Elland Silver Band. Screenings at 6pm and 8pm.

**2nd to 6<sup>th</sup> January | Bring the New Year in with The Long Company across Calderdale.** A free and spectacular Mummer's Play organised by Ryburn 3 Step in 4 outdoor locations starting at 8pm and followed by an indoor session of seasonal songs and tunes. Call 01422 822569 for more details.

**4<sup>th</sup> January | Orchestra of Square Chapel New Year Viennese Gala Concert.** Polkas, waltzes and marches from the Strauss families and their contemporaries. 3pm at St John the Divine church, Rastrick, Brighouse HD6 1HN. Tickets from the Orchestra website.

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## NEWS DECEMBER 2025

### New opening days & times at Calderdale Recycling Centres

Calderdale Council have changed to Winter opening times for their recycling centres. Brighouse and Sowerby Bridge are now closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. Halifax is closed on Wednesdays and Elland and Todmorden are closed on Thursdays and Fridays. Most centres now close at 4pm.

### Police offer new Scam Text advice

West Yorkshire Police have had a number of reports that people have been receiving suspicious text messages often reading: "Hi Dad/Mum, this is my new number". Their advice is to treat these messages as junk on your phone and report the number to 101 or crime stoppers so more fraud can be stopped. Messages around the Winter Fuel Allowance are also circulating and should be reported as fraud. All fuel payments are made direct to your bank without the need for you to confirm any details.

### New film highlights The Calderdale Way & short, easy walks nearby

A new film from Visit Calderdale offers insight into the beautiful scenery that can be found along the route of the Calderdale Way and new information boards are now in place across our region including at local railway stations, Withens Clough Reservoir and Jerusalem Farm Car Parks and The Last Post Ripponden. The boards show linked shorter walks and the film can be viewed on our website.

### Blue Badges: A guide to who can apply for one

On our website we have published a detailed guide on eligibility for a Blue Badge. In summary if you are registered blind, receive either the higher component of the disability living allowance related to mobility or one of the Personal Independence Payments also relating to mobility then you will be eligible. If you have a health condition or life-limiting illness that now causes difficulty walking or using your arms (to operate payment machines) then you may also be eligible. Full details are on our website.

### Preventing tea-time burglaries

Local Police have seen an increase in the number of burglaries taking place in the early evening when homes are still in darkness. Most tea-time burglaries occur between 5pm and 10pm with thieves often knocking first to see if anyone is home. They can be in and out in under 10 minutes with entry usually made through unlocked doors, open windows, or by forcing a rear or side door/window. Advice from the police includes being careful when answering the door to an unexpected evening caller, making sure all windows and doors are locked securely, installing security cameras and using timers for lights and electronic devices to give the appearance of the house being occupied.

### Report: Tackling hoarding

A new report from the Centre for Ageing Better shows how local authorities and organisations are finding ways to support residents who need to declutter or clear their homes. In the UK, it is widely estimated that the percentage of people who hoard at a clinically significant level is between 2% and 5% (approx. 1.4 million people). The negative impact of a home that is made unsafe by clutter and hoarded possessions can be greater for people as they age and may be already at a higher risk of falls or injury. You can read the full report including recommendations on dealing with clutter on our website or contact the Centre for Ageing Better on 020 3829 0113 or email [info@ageing-better.org.uk](mailto:info@ageing-better.org.uk)

**More news on our website at: [www.calderdaleforum50plus.com](http://www.calderdaleforum50plus.com)**

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