Dear Local Business,

**Christmas Window Competition 2020 Updated Letter**

We are pleased to inform you that the popular Bexhill Christmas Window Display Competition will take place again this year, and are hoping for a record number of entries to bring a bit of Christmas cheer to our town in difficult times. Although this is a competition, local residents continue to say how much they appreciate the efforts made by all the town centre businesses who take part and how much they enjoy viewing the displays. Entry is **free** and open to any town centre shop, or business with an external window display area.

We promise to work especially hard this year to promote all the entries and encourage as much footfall as we can to see the windows. As well as awarding placed and highly commended certificates, we will also provide a display certificate for every shop who registers an entry. This year’s theme will be **‘A Bexhillian Christmas’** and can be interpreted in any way you choose. Perhaps you might wish to create your display with pictures of the De La Warr Pavilion, or the wooden seafront shelters or choose to feature something from Bexhill’s history. You could decide to make us chuckle with a mention of local news such as the proposal for a Bexhill Town Council or the pavement widening. We are looking forward to seeing your ideas.

**As usual, we will be awarding a first prize of £50, which has been donated to the competition.**

The scheduled ‘Switch-on’ is still on Friday 27th November, but there will be no accompanying event or entertainment due to Covid rules. We have also moved the judging to the morning of Friday 11th Dec to allow sufficient time for windows to be completed after the lockdown. Therefore, participating window displays should be completed at any time up to 10.00 am on Fri 11th December when judging will begin. This year’s judges are listed at the end of this letter.

As usual Alexis Markwick will add the names and window photographs of all participants to an interactive map, which will be linked to facebook and local websites.

Any business situated between (and including) Sackville Road and Sea Road, and the seafront and Town Hall Square is eligible to take part. Entries will also be welcome from Wickham Avenue and the southern end of London Road.

The winners will be notified as soon as possible after 11th Dec with announcements on social media.

In order to enter, you must register, so we can make sure that the judges see your entry. Please do so by emailing baldryclaire@btinternet.com or you can telephone 01424 213952 (leave a message if you don’t get an answer).

It will really help with our organisation, if you can register as soon as possible, and preferably by 5th Dec. The sooner you register, the sooner we can add you to our publicity.

Thank you for your support, and good luck to all the entrants.

With best wishes,

Claire Baldry

Competition Organiser on behalf of Friends of Bexhill Events

**Christmas Window Judges 2020**

Cllr Lynn Langlands *Bexhill Town Mayor*

Ray Konyn *representing Bexhill Heritage*

Lynn Brailsford *representing Bexhill 100 Motoring Club*

Carol Cook *representing* *W.Ave Arts Bexhill*

Penny Thomas *representing Bexhill in Bloom*