

# CFO Christmas update

## Welcome to our Christmas round-up!

Across our CFO Activity Hubs there has been all manner of Christmas cheer spread, with fun activities taking place throughout the month of December.

From crafts to community visits and everything in between, we're thrilled to share some Christmas joy with you!



## Christmas Closure

Please note that CFO will be closed from midday on December 23rd, with offices re-opening on January 3rd. We wish you a peaceful and restful break.

## A mischievous elf!

For the Christmas period the Stoke CFO Activity Hub gained a new member of staff, Cat the Naughty Elf!

This cheeky elf would take part in activities around the Hub, including treadmill running, Christmas decorating and meditating, he even took over the Hub as boss at one point.

Staff at the hub shared highlights throughout the week as the elf interacted with participants and added to the Christmas excitement.





Tell your face it's Christmas, by CFO Activity Hub in Manchester with TiPP

## Christmas singalong

Christmas is the perfect time for a singalong, and our Hubs have really embraced that sentiment.

At the Manchester CFO Activity Hub, participants wrote, performed and recorded a song together. 'Tell Your Face It's Christmas' was recorded with sub provider, TiPP, and we haven't been able to get it out of our heads since!

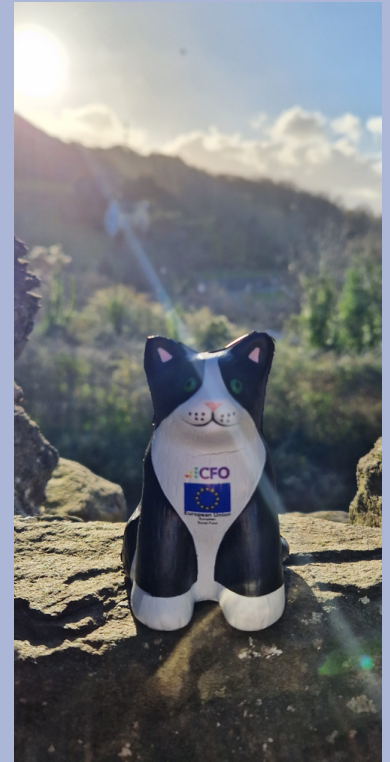
Elsewhere, the Birmingham CFO Activity Hub did some lovely carol singing together and the Warrington choir have been practicing hard. Amongst the Christmas songs, participants have been suggesting different tracks for the choir to attempt, much to the pleasure of Hub staff.

## Interventions Alliance Christmas

Interventions Alliance have been sharing their own take on the traditional advent calendar, with good news from across their CFO Activity Hubs and services being shared each day. [Click here for the latest update.](#)

The Warrington and Liverpool Hubs also went on a Christmas community visit to Conway Castle. The winter walk gave participants chance to interact with a new community and spend time building relationships between one another.

They even took the CFO cats for a photoshoot!

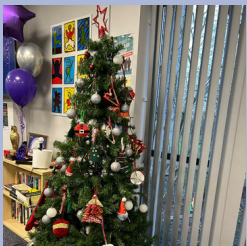


## Christmas Day come early

Christmas came early at the Leeds CFO Activity Hub.

A festive day full of performances from their dramatherapy and music groups, Christmas singalongs and bingo as well as a screening of The Grinch and festive lino printing.

And of course plenty of food and treats!





## Christmas card competition

Many of our Interventions Alliance CFO Activity Hubs participants have taken part in a Christmas card making contest, with loads of creative and unique designs being crafted. We believe there were many happy faces opening them over the last few days!





## Not-so Nativity

Christmas preparation started early at our Croydon CFO Activity Hub, where the participants spent time learning a 'Not-so Nativity.' They even created placards with 'cheer,' 'laugh,' and other instructions on to make the experience fully interactive.

Most the participants involved had never tried drama before, but performed wonderfully and thoroughly entertained everyone in attendance.

Cakes and treats were served up too, rounding off a perfect afternoon.

## Miles of smiles

At the Birmingham CFO Activity Hub, participants spent lots of time doing arts and crafts sessions, integrating a range of Christmas themed activities, such as snow globe making, tree and bauble decorating and Christmas clay fun. They also made cards to share with loved ones in order to spread the Christmas joy.

Coinciding with their other festive activities members of staff and participants at the Hub stocked and decorated Christmas-shoeboxes ready for donation at the Salvation Army.

Shaw Trust CFO staff and their partners, Langley House Trust, delivered the shoe boxes filled with an assortment of Christmas gifts and personal hygiene products for Men, Women and Children.



## No bake baking

At the Norwich CFO Activity Hub, more festive bakes were shared, with participants taking part in a no-bake session.

Making maximum use of the Hub facilities, participants created Christmassy ginger and orange cheesecakes.





## Festive fireplace

In our CFO Activity Hub in Middlesbrough, a festive fireplace was created to share gifts in front of.

Crafts sessions were carried out, with one participant creating a 'Three wise men' display.

They've also been gearing up for their February pantomime performance, so stay tuned for that!

## Kindness parcels

Recently at our Wolverhampton CFO Activity Hub, the PACT family practitioner arranged a number of activities relating to kindness and winter wellbeing. Tote bags were issued to participants containing several useful items from both a hygiene perspective and in terms of organisation, with the aim to help participants care for themselves mentally and physically.

The interventions were geared around promoting kindness towards others too. Including creating cards, jars and looking in depth at communities and how we can contribute to these through kind acts and deeds.



## CFO3 feedback

CFO3 in HMP Rochester, shared their festive Christmas wreath using a CFO lanyard as decoration! Ixion shared this with their prison colleagues, along with feedback from their participants.

Some of the lovely feedback when asked the best part of the project included:

"Understanding myself how to speak to people without being rude/nasty.

The techniques given to engage better with my children over the phone in one-to-ones."