



Let's Party!

How to host your own
virtual Christmas party

'tis (still) the season to be jolly!

It would normally be a time for coming together, to visit Christmas markets, sip mulled wine with friends and celebrating the end of the year with colleagues at work Christmas parties.

This year however, it is increasingly unlikely we will be able to keep up these annual traditions in the usual way.



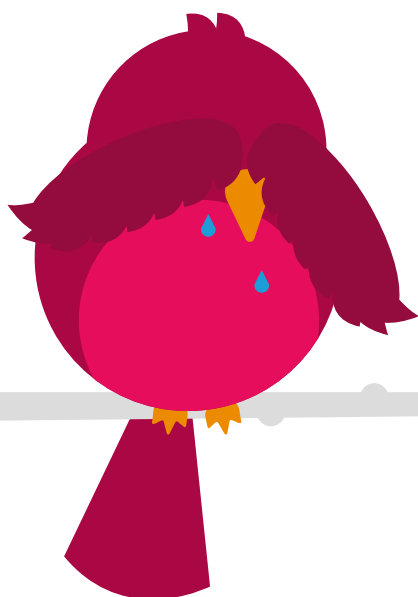
You can save a child's Christmas!

Create and host your very own online party by having some virtual fun with your friends, colleagues or family.

Not only will you keep everyone's spirit up, you can also bring some vital support to disadvantaged children all across Scotland this Christmas.

One in four children in Scotland live in poverty with some parents having to make the heart-breaking decision each day as to whether it is more important to heat their house or sit down to eat.

For many of these families, the coronavirus pandemic has pushed them deeper into poverty so this Christmas and throughout winter, we are calling on you to fundraise and make a real difference.



Where your money goes

£10

It's the season to eat, drink and be merry. £10 could feed a family this Christmas and help raise their spirits.

With your help, we can make sure they've got food in their tummies this Christmas, can sleep in safe, warm homes, and be supported to combat isolation and improve their mental health.

We work closely with smaller charities in your community and across the country to ensure help reaches children who are really struggling.

£5

In a time of togetherness, many children in Scotland feel isolated. Give the gift of good company by providing internet access to a young person feeling cut off from others.

£20

During our cold winters, keeping warm and cosy is essential. Share the warmth and provide gas and electricity to heat a family home.

“Christmas is really hard for me and my wee boy...”

...Covid has made all of it that bit more difficult. But the support we've had has been brilliant. I received vouchers to buy food and stuff for the house as well as toys and a book for Calum.

I couldn't have done it without them. It's taken the stress out of Christmas and made it really special for Calum. That's what Christmas is all about – it's about the weans, it's not about me, it's about making it the best for him.”

John, Inverclyde



John and Calum's story is real but we've changed their names to protect their anonymity. They've been supported by Children in Poverty Inverclyde a project funded by donations to the STV Children's Appeal

How to host your own virtual Christmas party

Here are our top tips for hosting a successful virtual Christmas Party:

Get your tech sorted

There are lots of apps for group video calls such as Zoom, Teams and Google Meet.

Guestlist

How many people are you inviting? That might limit what app you can use.

Set a date & send invites

Don't forget to send a link to the party!

There's lots more tips in this pack to make your party one to remember.

Tag us in your social posts so we can see your fabulous parties and fundraising activities.





Collecting donations



It's the season of giving so ask your guests to make a donation to join the party, for example £5 entry.

Or why not sell raffle tickets or even charge £2 for chickening out karaoke. Some of the ways you can donate:

Donate online at stv.tv/appeal

Text HERO to 70507 to make a £5 donation*

Create your own JustGiving page in advance via our Christmas campaign. Your friends can make a donation of any amount and you can watch the donations roll in. Visit justgiving.com/campaign/stvchristmas.



To donate £5
Text HERO
to 70507



Ready Quizmaster?

We've created a quiz you can use on the next page. Make sure your guests write down their answers.

Or you can create your own based around your guests' interests and hobbies. Make sure there's a variety of topics for everyone.

Include some silly rounds, such as a picture round, celebrities when they were young or musicians who had a Christmas No. 1.

Merry Quizmas!

Round 1 – Food and Drink

1. What should you eat one of on each of the 12 days of Christmas if you want good luck?
2. Which hot drink, popular at Christmas markets, dates back to 2nd century Rome?
3. What is traditionally made on Stir Up Sunday?
4. In Japan, it's a modern tradition to order Christmas dinner from which fast food chain?
5. What are the two main ingredients of a Snowball cocktail?

Round 2 – Film and TV

1. In which classic movie would you hear the line “Every Time a Bell Rings an Angel Gets His Wings”
2. Complete the name of this Friends episode: “The One With The Holiday.....”
3. “I’m a Cotton-Headed Ninny-muggins” is a quote from which movie?
4. Name the animated television film based on Raymond Briggs’ 1978 picture book.
5. Who provides the voice of numerous characters in the Polar Express, including the conductor and Santa?

Round 3 – Music

1. What festive favourite begins with the lyrics “Are you hanging up your stocking on the wall?”
2. Globally, what is the best-selling Christmas song of all time?
3. The Spice Girls had three consecutive Christmas number ones from 1996-98, name one of them.
4. According to Ladbaby’s Christmas number one songs, what do they love and what is the city built on?
5. In 1994 Mariah Carey released what would become her highest selling song, what is it?

Round 4 – General Knowledge

1. Alphabetically, which of Santa’s reindeer comes first?
2. Which plant has bright red and green leaves and is often given as a gift at Christmas?
3. What was the best-selling Christmas toy of 1980 created by a Hungarian designer?
4. Feliz Navidad is “Happy Christmas” in which language?
5. What colour are mistletoe berries?

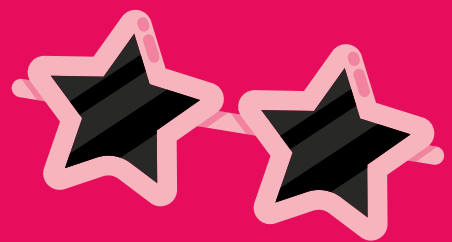


Dress to impress

Set the tone of your party by suggesting a dress code

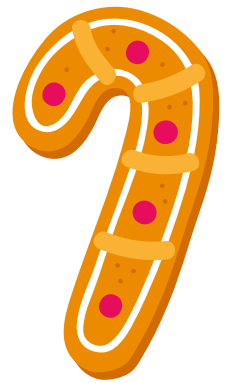
1. Recreate the glamour of a work night out with black tie and sparkly dresses.
2. Keep it casual and cosy with a Christmas jumper dress code.
3. Go big with a bit of fancy dress? Ho ho ho with a Classic Santa or go old school Panto with an ode to Cinderella.

You could award a prize for the most festive party outfit, cosiest Christmas jumper or most creative costume!





Eat, drink and be merry



Suggest a menu of snacks or courses for people to have ready to nibble on during your virtual party.

You could even incorporate a live cookalong into your entertainment.

Send a shopping list with your invitation and everyone has to get into the kitchen on the call. Have a laugh at everyone's creations.



Christmas fizz

Ingredients

1 bottle of Prosecco or Cava
500ml Orange juice

Optional
Small bunch of grapes
1 green apple

Method

1. If you would like to make frozen grapes instead of ice cubes, wash and dry your grapes, and place in Tupperware or across a dry ice cube tray and place in freezer for at least 4 hours.
2. Fill a champagne glass to half way with your fizz of choice.
3. Add a couple of frozen grapes and a slice of green apple if using, then fill to the top of the glass with orange juice.



Mulled apple juice

Ingredients

1 litre of apple juice
1 orange
1 cinnamon stick
Pinch of nutmeg
2 cloves
1 tbsp. brown sugar

Method

1. Zest the orange and add to a saucepan. Half the orange and squeeze the juice into the pan.
2. Add the apple juice, cinnamon stick, nutmeg, cloves and sugar and place over a medium heat.
3. Stir and heat until the sugar dissolves but be careful not to bring to a boil. Add more sugar if you like it sweeter.
4. Strain the mulled apple juice and serve. Additional cinnamon sticks can be used as stirrers!

Secret Santa

This favourite Christmas tradition might be too tricky to organise this year, but there are some alternatives you may like to include in your virtual party.

Virtual Raffle

As the host you could provide some prizes or novelty gifts. Ask people to buy virtual raffle tickets by making a donation to your JustGiving page, then pull the winners from a hat on the night.

Donation Pledge

Instead of buying and sending Christmas cards and gifts everyone could agree to donate the money they would normally spend on these items to the STV Children's Appeal.

Gift Auction

Have a sought after item or unwanted gift others may love? Hold a little auction for your guests.



Sing-song merrily on high

Who doesn't love to join in a sing-a-long at Christmas!?

Here's some ideas to really fill everyone with Christmas Joy:

- Email the lyrics to classic Christmas songs before hand so everyone can enjoy a sing-a-long!
- What's a party without karaoke? Line up some of your guests to perform their favourite Christmas tunes. You could even hold your very own X-mas Factor!
- Add an extra music round to the quiz in this pack! Guess the song by just playing a 5 second intro or guess if it was a Christmas no. 1 hit or if it stalled at number 2.



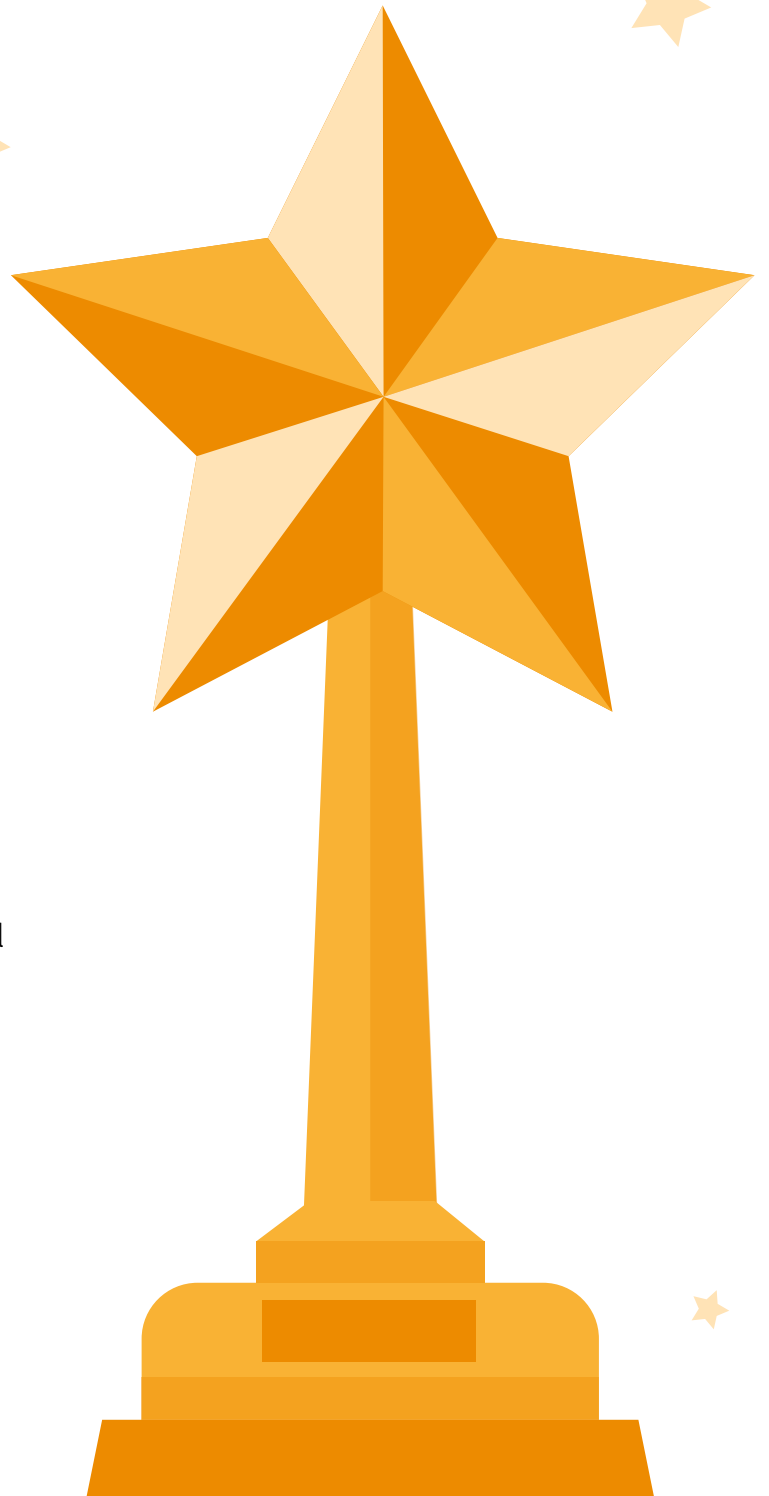
And the winner is...

Add a bit more excitement and host an awards ceremony.

Present special awards like “community hero” or ‘star of the year”. Don’t forget some novelty categories, for example, “worst DIY hair cut” or “most awkward zoom moment”.

You could dream up the categories and pick the winner yourself as the host, or if you have more time, ask everyone to submit nominations for the categories or winners.

Announce the trophy winners at your event and it’ll be a moment everyone will remember.



Play!

What's a party without party games?

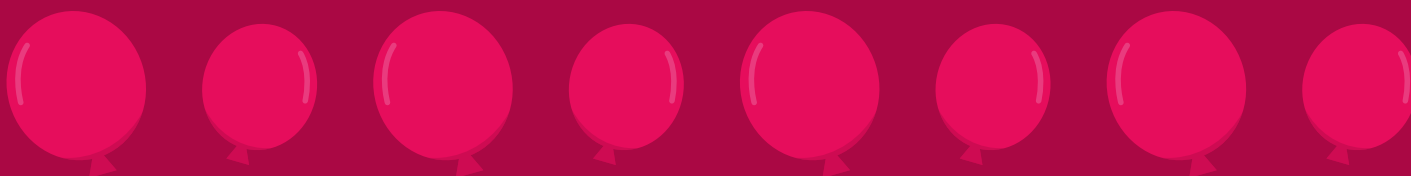
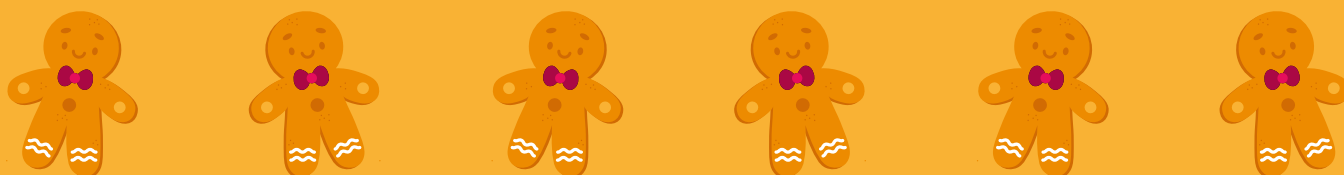


Here are some suggestions to get everyone involved. (You may need to do some secret emailing or texting in advance to give everyone their instructions and items to be able to play.)

- 1** **Cyber Charades**
Encourage your guests to get animated and act out on camera the book, movie or TV show you have given them for all the others to guess.
- 2** **Who Am I (20 questions)**
Guests ask questions to work out which celebrity you have appointed them and answers must either be 'yes' or 'no'.
- 3** **Sketch and Guess**
Take it in turn to draw images and phrases on a sheet of paper and whoever guesses correctly first wins.
- 4** **Virtual Escape Room and Murder Mystery**
Download our free, special edition virtual games from the STV Children's Appeal website: stvappeal.tv/events.

Paper chains

We've created some paper chain designs you can print and cut out. You could even have a go designing your own. To create the chain shape, glue the ends together, then loop in the next link in the chain, glue and repeat!



Sharing is caring

Here's a reminder of ways to donate and how to get in touch and share your pictures and stories.

Create your own JustGiving page in advance via justgiving.com/campaign/stvchristmas. Your friends can make a donation of any amount and you can watch the donations roll in.

 @appealSTV

 @stvappeal

 @stvchildrensappeal

 stvappeal@stv.tv

 stv.tv/appeal

 STV Children's Appeal,
Pacific Quay, Glasgow, G51 1PQ

STV Appeal SCIO SC042429

To donate £5
Text HERO
to 70507



Thank you and good luck!

On behalf of all of us here
at the STV Children's Appeal...

Thank you!

We really appreciate you sharing your special celebration with us in support of the thousands of children across Scotland who will struggle with the effects of poverty this Christmas.

We hope you have fun organising your online party and that you and all your guests have a great time keeping the Christmas Spirit alive at the end of what has been a difficult year for all of us.

Feel proud of your fundraising efforts and the difference you will make to those disadvantaged young people at a time when support is needed more than ever.

Merry Christmas,

STV Children's Appeal team

