

Christmas Trees For Everyone

A fantastic Christmas Tree Festival took place at the Minster Church last weekend with more than 100 beautifully decorated trees on display.

The event was a real community effort with trees being exhibited by local businesses, charities, voluntary groups, schools, families and individuals. There was a truly breathtaking display of colour and creativity to be found in the interior of this magnificent and historic church.

There was entertainment and refreshments throughout the festival. A festival concert featuring the Bratton Silver Band took place last Friday night, Father Christmas flew in on Saturday and the event concluded with a festival carol service supported by the wonderful Warmminster Brass Band.

Sean's tree was placed in the Minster by his family and it has given them a lot of comfort putting his memory tree at the Christmas Tree Festival each year for everyone who knew him to remember him. Sean died, aged four, after developing complications following his final heart surgery. His family want to raise awareness of children with life limiting heart conditions and the charities that support the families.

The 'Festive Finntastic' tree was placed at the festival by the Martin family whose little boy Finn was diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia two years ago. Finn's tree is orange and gold. Orange is to symbolise Leukaemia and gold is the international colour for child-

hood cancer. His family are raising much needed awareness of cancer in children.

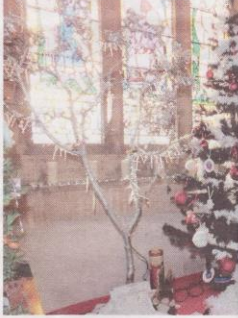
A local resident said, "The awe inspiring architecture with its stove pillars and high arched ceilings are a stunning backdrop to the fripperies of Christmas. The tinsel, baubles and hand stitched decorations in a huge array of colours, illuminated by the light from the beautiful stained glass windows, complimented one another perfectly even though they are such different types of church decoration.

"It was a delight to see what must have been over 100 trees in the wonderful Minster Church. The various colours and designs displayed the tastes and many forms of inspiration of the people who worked on these five festival creations.

"Although I enjoyed walking around the church and seeing all the trees, I was sometimes near to tears on reading the notes under some of the trees, most noticeably Sean's Tree and the Poppy Tree. The poem was both poignant and heart-breakingly sad. However, whilst it is good to remember those who have died too young for whatever reason and at various points in history, the Christmas Tree Festival does leave you with a feeling of community spirit and joy at the prospect of Christmas soon upon us."

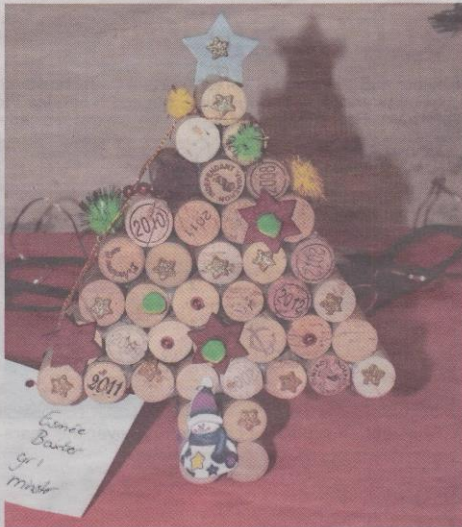


Adding some mov



Jack Frost is here! A Wint
Children's Society Tree, Ma
the Minster Musical Monste





A corky tree from Esmée Baxter of Year 1 at the Minster School.



A beautiful array of cold Warminster Diabetes Support Beautiful Blossom by the Together by Warminster Co



The Poppy Tree by the Royal British Legion and the Macmillan Tree by Macmillan Cancer Support.



An innovating decorate

