

Linc^{on} insight



Welcome

In this month's issue:

- **Your Community**
- **New Benefits**
- **Festive Treats**

Plus...

Win a Hamper
Wordsearch Competitions
and much more...

Your community

Give back days...

Give back days are a great way of helping out in the community by giving back a bit of your time.

Staff can apply for up to 2 paid days a year. There are lots of give back days you can do as an individual, or why not get your team together. This could be a great way to help out in the community and team build and have a bit of fun at the same time!

- Duke of Edinburgh leader
- Scout / Brownie leader
- Volunteering at a local kitchen for the homeless
- Participating in arranged activities at Riseholme, such as bulb planting or lambing
- Volunteering at an animal shelter

Visit [Linc-On.co.uk](https://linc-on.co.uk) for more information

Payroll giving

This December your gift can mean more.

Did you know that you have the power to **make a real difference** to someone's life, to animals, to the environment?

More than ever charities need your help to support those who need it most. With Payroll Giving you can donate what you want and **save money** with this tax effective, secure and flexible way to give.

With just one small regular Payroll Giving donation **you can join** the million employees just like you to support the charity of your choice.

Local Get into the Christmas spirit by visiting your local Christmas market which supports local communities and business.



Closure days

The University closes for the Christmas break over the following dates:

- **Friday 23 December** – Concessionary Day
- **Monday 26 December** – Bank Holiday
- **Tuesday 27 December** – Christmas Day Substitute Holiday
- **Wednesday 28 December** – Concessionary Day
- **Thursday 29 December** – Concessionary Day
- **Friday 30 December** – Concessionary Day
- **Monday 2 January** – Bank Holiday
- **Tuesday 3 January** – Concessionary Day

We will return on **Wednesday the 4th January 2023**. Please remember if you have your annual leave entitlement in hours, to book off any of the bank holiday and concessionary days that fall on your normal working pattern.

Benefits

Remember to look on Linc-on for extra savings to make at this time of year.

Lets' Connect

Under the technology section of Linc-on, visit the Let's connect platform for lots of tech gadgets and equipment and spread the cost through the payroll over 24 months.

New benefits

The Payroll Services team have been working hard to bring you a new selection of benefits. These include:

1. Freecycle

Having a winter tidy up or clear out? Log on to Linc-on to add any items you no longer need that may be really useful to another colleague. Visit Linc-on Live and add your items or to view the current items available. Lets make the most of our Freecycle scheme and Payroll Services would love to hear of your good news stories to help promote the scheme further.

2. Halfords Car Maintenance Scheme

The Car maintenance scheme has been set up to provide our employees with the flexibility to spread the cost of car maintenance over 12 months through the payroll. Helping out with those unexpected costs. The scheme has many benefits:

Spread the cost of routine MOT's, servicing and tyre replacement as well as any unexpected costs

- Flexible scheme open all year round
- Access to Halfords mobile exports and 300 autocentres across the UK
- Well maintained vehicles will reduce a households CO2 emissions
- The scheme can also be used by family members to further increase household savings
- Access to a range of additional benefits including free vehicle safety checks, Brakes4Life and access to sale and promotional offers

3. Cycle to work – Increase to support the purchase of electric bikes

The Cycle to work scheme has seen an increase in applications for electric bikes. To support colleagues, the limit has been **increased to £2,500** with the option to spread out the costs over 24 months. The scheme has the added benefit of the salary sacrifice savings of tax and National Insurance on the value requested.

4. Dell Advantage scheme

- Gaming, S, P and SE series monitors – **Up to a further 15% off**
- Alienware, XPS, G Series desktops and laptops - **further 10% off**
- Latitude, Optiplex, and Vostro – **Further 12% off**
- Inspiron all In ones, 2 in ones, desktops and laptops – **up to a further 10%**
- Standard **25% off** on all Dell branded accessories.
- Access to special promos i.e. Black Friday, Easter and Semi Annual deals offering **up to 40% off** in total across the whole Dell website.

How to apply

Simply log on to dell.co.uk/advantage/employees and sign up for your voucher to spend on Dell products with the savings available throughout the website or visit [Linc-On](#) for more information.

Check your Linc-on account

Log on to [Linc-on](#) and check if you have any points remaining on your account. There are lots of gift card and vouchers codes to spend your points on.

Coming in 2023

Eye Med is a new benefit to support our employees with the cost of replacement glasses and lenses with the cost spread through the payroll.

Look out for your new benefits coming soon to your benefits platform. If you have any suggestions for new benefits, please email payrollservices@lincoln.ac.uk

Your December highlights

<p>SAVE 25%</p> <p>crocs™</p>	<p>SAVE UP TO 10%</p> <p>Apple</p>
<p>SAVE 15%</p> <p>Silentnight</p>	<p>SAVE 6.5%</p> <p>M&S</p>
<p>SAVE 15%</p> <p>MOLTON BROWN LONDON</p>	<p>Nothing caught your eye? Pick from thousands of other great deals on your platform.</p>



My Favourite Christmas Film

The best Christmas film has to be Love Actually - the bit at the end where they're in Heathrow Airport and Hugh Grant is doing the voice over gets me every time. On Christmas morning we have a tradition that we have Scrooge on in the background, the version with Albert Finney as Scrooge, even though its old the message is the same; it's never too late for redemption and he comes good in the end, there is always hope! Christmas food recipe has to be homemade stuffing from the BBC Good Food website, made on Christmas Eve during the day with Christmas tunes playing whilst prepping all the other bits to go with dinner the next day and maybe a glass of port too!

Sarah Hayne - TNE and Short-Term Mobility Project Manager, Global Opportunities



My favourite Christmas movie is The Holiday – I can watch it time and time again during the festive period and not get bored. During Christmas morning I visit the younger members of our family who still believe and watch them open their presents – it's a magical time. My husband on the other hand says it's the best time of the year when he gets left alone at home to drink, play music loud and cook the Christmas dinner. On Boxing Day family members come to our house for our traditional Turkey Korma and Steve's famous Bread & Butter Panettone pudding.

Sharon Smith, Human Resources

20 great Christmas movies to watch

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Love Actually | 4. Scrooged | 12. White Christmas |
| 2. Santa Claus The Movie | 5. The Polar Express | 13. The Santa Clause |
| 3. The Muppet Christmas Carol | 6. The Nightmare Before Christmas | 14. It's a Wonderful Life |
| | 7. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation | 15. Nativity |
| | 8. Miracle on 34th Street | 16. Elf |
| | 9. A Christmas Carol | 17. The Holiday |
| | 10. Holiday Inn | 18. Joyeux Noel |
| | 11. Home Alone | 19. The Christmas Chronicles |
| | | 20. Last Christmas |

Discounted Cinema Tickets and Sky Store Offers – Remember you can purchase discounted Cinema Tickets and Sky Store Purchases at your Filmology Benefits site Home (filmbenefits.com)

Christmas Movie Magic

Whether it's a cosy night in or a family outing enjoy your seasonal screening for a little less. With access to discounted voucher for Odeon, Sky Store, Just Eat and lots of other great places to eat settle down with a family favourite or a new classic and enjoy.

Want to share your love of your favourite Christmas movie? Go to [Linc-On](#) and give it a write up on the film club.



Music quiz

Just for a bit of fun, have a go at our Christmas music quiz

(Turn the page for the answers below)

1. Who sang Last Christmas?
2. Which boy band had the UK Christmas Number One spot in 1994 with Stay Another Day?
3. Who recorded the original version of White Christmas in 1942?
4. Which famous Christmas song begins with the lyrics: 'the mood is right, the spirit's up, we're here tonight, and that's enough'?
5. How many 'las' are after the 'fa' in Deck the Halls?
6. Which Chris Rea song includes the lyrics 'top to toe in tailbacks, oh, I got red lights all around'?
7. How many versions of Do They Know It's Christmas have been released?
8. One More Sleep is a Christmas song by which former X-Factor winner?
9. Complete the next line of this song. 'Does he ride a red-nosed reindeer? Does he turn up on his sleigh?'
10. In the twelve days of Christmas, how many ladies were dancing?

Answers

1. Wham, 2. East 17, 3. Bing Crosby, 4. Wonderful Christmastime by Paul McCartney, 5. Eight, 6. Driving Home for Christmas, 7. Four (1984, 1989, 2004, 2014), 8. Leona Lewis, 9. Do the fairies keep him sober for a day, 10. Nine.



The Christmas Hamper competition

To WIN one of three Luxury Christmas Hampers simply email Christmas hamper competition to Payrollservices@lincoln.ac.uk by Noon on Friday 16th December to be in with a chance of winning. Winners will be notified by email.



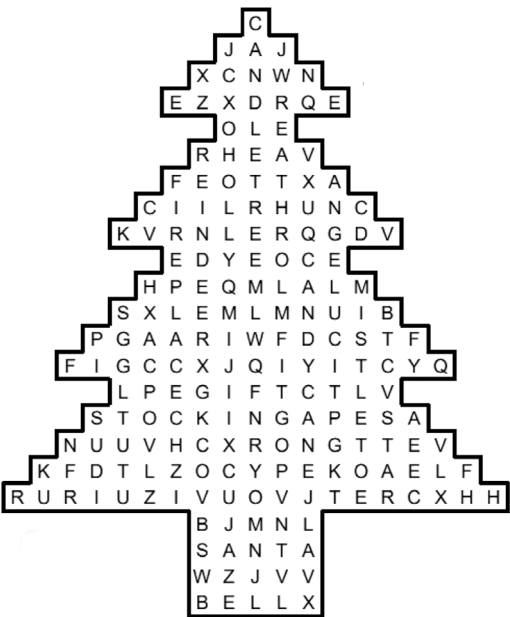
Wordsearch Competitions

Hopefully we will all have a few spare minutes to relax over the break and we have a competition for you and your children to keep your mind active.

Each WordSearch has a word missing from the grid that you will be unable to find, Once you have it email the missing word to PayrollServices@lincoln.ac.uk using the title of "Adult Wordsearch" or "Children's Wordsearch" – Winners will be drawn at random on Monday 19th December at noon.

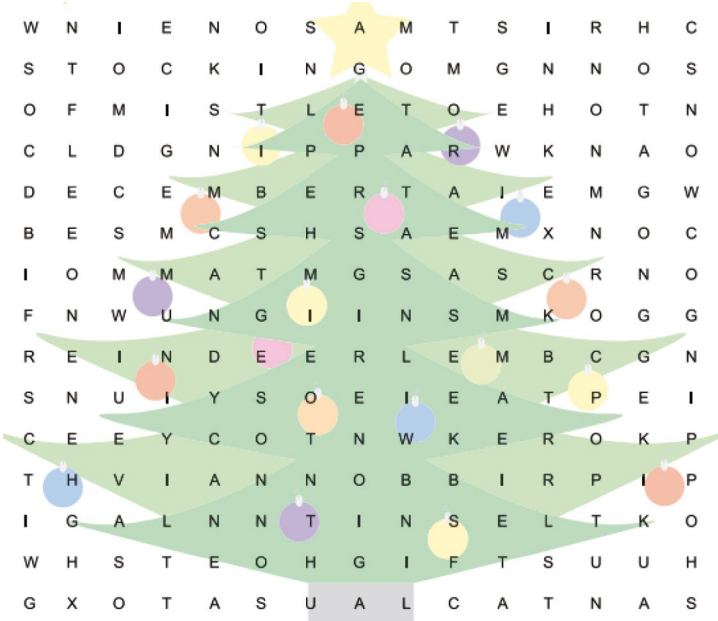
Children's (under 15) Wordsearch

– 3 winners will be drawn at random from correct entries and will **win a £20 Amazon voucher** each.



- | | | |
|------------|---------------|-----------|
| Snowman | Bell Stocking | Reindeer |
| Star | Gift | Elf |
| Angel | Wreath | Mistletoe |
| Candy Cane | Fireplace | Santa |
| Holly | Candle | |

Adult Wordsearch – 3 winners will be drawn at random from correct entries and will **win a £30 Amazon voucher** each.



- | | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|----------|
| Bow | Elves | Reindeer | Tinsel |
| Candy Cane | Gifts | Ribbon | Tree |
| Christmas | Mistletoe | Santa Claus | Wrapping |
| Cookies | Ornaments | Shopping | |
| December | Poinsettia | Snow | |
| Egg Nog | Popcorn | Stocking | |



Uni Imps

The University of Lincoln continues to partner with Lincoln City Football Club and there are a number of ways you can support the club over Christmas.

University of Lincoln / Lincoln City Third Shirt

The 2022/23 third shirt is available for £45 from the Students' Union Reception or the Sports Centre Reception. A donation for every shirt sale will be made to support the students studying with us from Ukraine.

£5 Tickets – Tickets are available from the Students' Union Reception a week prior to any home match for £5. Matches over the festive period are:

30th December – Bolton 7.45 pm Kick off
2nd January – Ipswich 3.00 pm Kick off



Competition To win a squad signed Lincoln City Third Shirt just email Payrollservices@lincoln.ac.uk with the title of 'LCFC Third Kit Competition'. Winner will be drawn at random on Monday 19th December at noon.

Spread a little joy

Our e-cards allow you to send a colleague a recognition card whether to just say thank you or to acknowledge a colleague who has gone above and beyond. So, go on.....takes a minute to do but could put a smile on a face for days. The e-cards can be found in our Recognition Centre in Linc-On University of Lincoln (Linc-On.co.uk)



Festive treats



Christmas Peppermint Candy Cane Fudge

Recipe from Pro Vice Chancellor/Head of College of Science

"I came across this recipe for Christmas peppermint candy cane fudge last year. Though it looked a little intimidating at the outset, and definitely gives you a workout mixing the fudge! it was surprisingly easy and unbelievably delicious. They look so festive as well! You do need a sugar thermometer, and I bought one from amazon for about £5. Merry Christmas all, Duncan"

Ingredients

60g unsalted butter plus a little extra for greasing
450g light muscovado sugar
400 ml double cream
1tbsp glucose syrup (sometimes difficult to find – can substitute with corn syrup)
Half a tsp peppermint extract
6 crushed candy canes

Method

- 1) Grease and line a deep cake square tin
- 2) Melt butter, sugar, cream and syrup on low heat – prevent any burning
- 3) Increase heat until fudge begins to boil, stirring continually, continuing to mix until 116°C
- 4) Remove pan from heat and let it cool until it gets to 110°C – add in peppermint extract
- 5) Beat with a wooden spoon until temperature reduces to 60°C, and then continue to beat for a few more minutes
- 6) Pour fudge into tin and sprinkle with crushed candy canes, pushing down slightly
- 7) Don't chill – leave it for 24 hours in room temperature, covered and then slice into around 24 cubes



Steve's Bread and Butter Panettone

Ingredients

1 large panettone
Custard
Chocolate or marmalade to taste

Method

- 1) Take 1 large panettone and slice the edges off into 1 inch thick sections.
- 2) Take a flan dish and wipe inside with some butter to stop the panettone sticking.
- 3) Put a couple of tablespoons of sugar in the flan tray and then fill the tray with the torn panettone (try to make it look like a flan by forcing the panettone together)..
- 4) Pour posh vanilla custard over and let the panettone soak it up for a while.
- 5) Tear some smaller pieces and place in the custard and if you have some left fill the tray to just about cover the smaller pieces.
- 6) Put in the oven at 180-200 for 25-35 minutes or until it looks a bit brown.
- 7) If you like chocolate you can add some broken chocolate in before cooking (or if you like marmalade add a few dollops of that!) or even use a Chocolate Panettone for the recipe!
- 8) Leave it to cool, remove from flan tray and serve with thick cream.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PLATFORM

MAKE SOME HOLLY JOLLY SAVINGS

Whether it's gifts, homewares, food, fashion or entertainment – we've got a sack full of savings waiting for you.



And many more...



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