

Retford Illuminate – Winter Festival of Light

There are lots of festive events and activities taking place across Retford as part of the Illuminate – Winter Festival of Light programme in the run-up to Christmas. Highlights include:



- Thursday 3rd December, 6.00pm: Guiding Christmas Concert, St Saviours Hall
- Saturday 5th December, 10.00am to 2.00pm: Christmas Crank-Up, Bassetlaw Museum
- Sunday 6th December, 10.00am: Rotary Santa Fun Run, Market Square
- Thursday 10th December, 7.00pm to 9.00pm: Late Night Shopping, Cath Ray Gallery
- Sunday 13th December to Thursday 24th December: Christmas Fayre, Retford Arts Hub
- Friday 18th December, 7.30pm: Christmas Carol Concert, Majestic Theatre

Retford Creative Community

Retford is home to a thriving creative community, with a wide range of organisations offering exhibitions, workshops and events. Here are just a few of them:



Cath Ray Gallery

58b Bridgegate, Retford
DN22 7UZ (Open
Monday to Saturday
10.00am to 5.00pm
(closing at 2.00pm on Tuesdays)
cathraygallery@outlook.com
www.facebook.com/cathraybooks

- Saturday 14th November to Tuesday 22nd December: 'Chrysalis', an exhibition of student work, with many items available to purchase alongside the gallery's usual range of crafts and cards.
- Friday 20th November, 4.00pm to 6.00pm: Christmas Kinusag with Mel Eldred. Adults £20.00, optional child place £10.00. Six spaces available.
- Sunday 22nd November, 11.00am to 3.00pm: Coiled Creatures



Retford Town Centre news

- Ceramics with Shaun Clark. £50.00. Two spaces available.
- Sunday 29th November, 11.00am to 1.00pm: Solid Copper Leaf Tree Decorations with Melanie Eldred. £50.00. Five spaces available.
- Monday 7th December, 7.00pm to 9.00pm: Holly Sprig Clay Flowers with Nathalie Birch. £25.00. Eight spaces available.

Bassetlaw Museum
Grove Street, Retford
www.bassetlawmuseum.org.uk



- Friday 13th November, 6.30pm to 9.00pm: Discover the wonders of the night sky at an Astronomy Evening. Admission is pay what you decide.
- Thursday 26th November onwards: Christmas displays in the Museum. A special highlight will be Santa's cosy sitting room. Free entry. Donations are welcome.

Majestic Theatre
Coronation Street,
DN22 6DX
01777 706866



- boxoffice@majesticretford.org
- Sunday 1st November, 6.00pm: 'A Decade of Dance' celebrates 10 years of the Performance Hub. Tickets are £15.00 for adults and £12.00 concessions.

Retford Little Theatre

Wharf Road, DN22 6EN
01777 702002



- info@retfordartshub.com
- @retfordartshub
- Friday 6th November, 1.00pm to 4.00pm: Paint a winter scene in oils with local artist John Redfern Harris.

Retford Arts Hub
Churchgate, Retford
01777 860414



- Friday 6th November, 1.00pm to 4.00pm: Paint a winter scene in oils with local artist John Redfern Harris.

- Saturday 7th November, 1.30pm to 3.30pm: Fresh Flower Handbag Workshop with Tracey Mills.
- Wednesday 11th November, 1.30pm to 3.30pm: Watercolour Ink Flowers with Sandra Openshaw.
- Wednesday 25th November, 1.30pm to 3.30pm: Acrylic Landscape with local artist Mark Andrew.
- Saturday 28th November, 12.30pm to 3.30pm: Palette Knife Landscape Taster Session with Ian Davenport.
- Saturday 28th November, 10.30am to 12.00pm: Kids Creative Club for children aged seven to 12 years. £3.00.

For more information, visit www.discoverretford.co.uk and www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk.

Retford Business Forum (RBF)

YOUR BUSINESS FORUM NEEDS YOU!

RET FORD BUSINESS FORUM

The current management team will retire at the end of February 2027 and is looking for members to help support the Forum's future activities.

Volunteer opportunities include:

- Treasurer
- Events and promotions
- Advertising, PR and marketing
- Administration
- Membership costs £24.00 per year and is open to both individuals and businesses.

Please contact chair@retfordbusinessforum.org.uk

Retford Business Forum is not regularly funded and relies on the support of its members and partners. Membership costs £24.00 per year and is open to both individuals and businesses.

For membership information, email membership@retfordbusinessforum.org.uk. Anyone interested in becoming involved in the management of the forum is invited to contact chair@retfordbusinessforum.org.uk.

What's On this November



Retford Illuminate – Winter Festival of Light 29th November – 19th December 2026

Retford Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On

Sunday 29th November 2026 – 10am to 6pm
Great stage and street entertainment, market stalls, shops and hospitality venues, with Santa, the Frost Fairy, Evie the Elf and Hathersage Brass Band. Top Take That tribute band Rule the World completes the show.



Retford Illuminate – Winter Festival of Light Parade Wednesday 9th December 2026, 4pm to 7pm



Retford Big Market Day – Grand Finale of the Year! Saturday 19th December 2026, 10am to 1pm



The Frost Fairy, Hathersage Brass Band, free face painting, Santa, plus more...tba



Retford Big Market Day Saturday 21st November 2026 10.00am to 1.00pm

Retford Market Square, Buttermarket and Town Centre
Farmers (open until 1.00pm), Craft and Traditional Saturday Markets (open from 08.30am to 2.20pm)

To book a stall contact 01909 533533 or licensing@bassetlaw.gov.uk
(These markets are organised by Bassetlaw District Council)

This month – not just one, but TWO Christmas
Elf stiltwalkers...double the fun!



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Retford Business Forum, in partnership with Bassetlaw District Council and North Notts BID

www.discoverretford.co.uk

Retford Business Forum CIC