



PRESS RELEASE

Monday 25th November 2024

For immediate use

Retford turns out to support its Christmas Market & Lights Switch-On despite Storm Bert

On Sunday 24th November 2024, Retford successfully went ahead with a modified Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On. The very high winds of Storm Bert meant the market stalls could not be covered and the stage could not be constructed, so the event focused on the Town Hall.

At 5pm, following speeches from Cllr Sue Shaw (BDC Chair), Cllr David Naylor (Retford Mayor) and Rev Reuben Crossley (Rector, St Swithun's), Santa and his little helper, Hansel, switched on the Christmas lights. The people in and around Retford braved the weather and turned out in great numbers to support the event, and the organisers wish each and every one of them a very Happy Christmas.

The Buttermarket, Council Chamber and the Ballroom were full of craft stalls offering a range of great products. Mayflower WI provided the refreshments in the Buttermarket and during the afternoon Jessica Mary Brett provided live entertainment singing at various locations around the Town Hall.

The fair and the street food providers took up locations on the Market Square, and many local retailers and hospitality venues opened during the day and reported good visitor numbers.

On Friday 23rd November 2024, the organisers of the Retford Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On 2024 event made the difficult decision to restrict the event to indoors, and spent the afternoon and evening contacting partner organisations, traders, entertainers and the public to advise them of the change.

The next great events in Retford are Illuminate – Winter Festival of Light on Thursday 12th December (4.30pm-7.00pm) and the last Big Market Day in 2024 on 21st December (8.30am – 1.00pm).

Retford Big Market Days happen on the third Saturday of each month featuring the Farmers and Craft Markets, in addition to the traditional market, and now with the Young Traders Market, with entertainment arranged by Retford Business Forum, supported by North Notts BID and Bassetlaw District Council.

Notes for editors.

Retford Business Forum relies entirely on its members, donations, and grants, and is not regularly funded by anyone. Members include individuals, businesses, and organisations, from around Bassetlaw, and information about Retford Business Forum can be found at www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk

Photographs are from Retford Christmas Market & Lights Switch-On – 24th November 2024