



# Redditch Mission Area Launches with Celebratory Spirit!



## A Vision for Flourishing Churches:

The Redditch Mission Area is more than just a new structure; it's a vision for empowering local churches to flourish and become all that God is calling them to be. This vision is rooted in attentiveness to the Spirit's work in our communities, across Redditch and the surrounding villages. The launch of the Redditch Mission Area marks an exciting new chapter for our churches. It's a call to embrace collaboration, to listen to the Spirit's leading, and to work together to build a brighter future for our communities. Let's celebrate this milestone and look forward to the amazing things that God will do through us as we journey together.



**On a sunny Sunday afternoon**, July 14th, 2024, St John's Church in Greenlands was buzzing with excitement as the High Sheriff of Worcestershire, Charles Moyle, Martin Gorick, the Bishop of Dudley, and Archdeacon Nikki Groarke gathered with 130 people to celebrate a momentous occasion: the official launch of the Redditch Mission Area and the commissioning of Rev Canon Paul Lawlor as its Lead.



**The High Sheriff** took the opportunity to present awards to the Redditch Mission Area for their outstanding work in developing the Redditch Christmas Toy Appeal, a shining example of the power of collaboration within the Mission Area. It was emphasized that the award was for every individual who shares the vision of the Mission Area. It is a testament to the collective effort and commitment to making a real difference in our community.

## Collaboration is Key

The success of the Christmas toy appeal, with every one of the twelve churches contributing, demonstrates the incredible impact that can be achieved when churches work together on larger projects, without sacrificing their individual initiatives. In fact, collaboration strengthens and inspires each church to grow and thrive.

Want to learn more about the Redditch Mission Area and how you can get involved?

Contact our website: [cofe-redditch.org.uk](http://cofe-redditch.org.uk) Follow our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/RedditchMissionArea>

## Quotes of the day!

### **Archdeacon Nikki Groarke:**

"The service felt like a significant milestone in our journey towards working more collaboratively in mission across Redditch and the wider area. It was a chance to celebrate how far we have come, and set things in place for the future, in a context of praise and worship – a really joyful afternoon!"



### **High Sheriff of Worcestershire Charles Moyles:**

"When all is said and done, the one thing we have left is Community.

Community is our family, our neighbours, our colleagues and our acquaintances. We may not know them intimately, they may not have a faith but regardless – if we can find the time to talk to them, share with them, take time to listen to them, then we will begin to alleviate loneliness and exclusion – through Community we can make every single person feel special and valuable."

### **Rev Canon Paul Lawlor:**

It is a privilege to be asked to lead on this exiting initiative. I am passionate that our churches flourish and demonstrate the love of God to the communities they serve. I hope that the Mission Area can help churches to do this each in their own unique way.



### **Elaine Whitfield:**

The heart of the Redditch Mission Area is to empower our local churches to flourish, to truly become what God is calling them to be. This means being attuned to the Spirit's work in our communities, across Redditch and our surrounding villages.

I believe we are on the cusp of something truly special, a movement of God's Spirit in our midst and I am excited for the future of the Redditch Mission Area and our continued work together.