

Welcome to our July 2026 Newsletter which contains:

- *Mission Support - Sharing God's Love Beyond the Church Walls*
- *Mission Update - RMA Steering Group*
- *Mission On The Move - Bags of Hope - Exciting News!*
- *Mission Opportunities - Is God Stirring a New Idea in Your Church?*



Sharing God's Love Beyond the Walls!

The Christ the King Benefice was delighted to be part of this year's Astwood Bank Carnival, with RMA's Jana Harvey and Elaine Whitfield joining the team in support.

Their welcoming gazebo became a genuine haven of peace and fellowship throughout the day, offering an abundance of delicious cakes, along with hot and cold drinks, to visitors seeking a moment to rest and chat.

Children enjoyed a range of activities, while volunteers shared meaningful conversations with people from across the community.

There was also great interest in the Benefice's forthcoming Messy Church events, with many families keen to find out more.

Despite the scorching temperatures, it was a joyful and productive day, providing countless opportunities to share God's love through hospitality, friendship and simple acts of kindness.

Mission Opportunities

Is God stirring a new idea in your church?

Every church has its own gifts, traditions and opportunities to serve its community. If your church has an idea for reaching out beyond its walls but needs the right venue to bring it to life, our Kingfisher Centre Mission Hub is available for churches across the Redditch Mission Area to use.

Whether you're planning a one-off event or a regular community activity, the Mission Hub offers a welcoming town centre space where your vision can flourish. The venue is available free of charge from 23 August until November, and support is available if it would be helpful. If your church has an idea you'd like to explore, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact Elaine at elaine@cofe-redditch.org.uk to discuss your plans, check availability and see how, together, we can help your vision become a reality.

The Redditch Mission Area (RMA) Steering Group has been formed following the annual review of the Mission Area to help shape its future.

Representatives from each of our churches are meeting to listen, reflect and discern together how we can best support the mission and ministry of every church across Redditch. The group's role is to identify what is working well, what could be improved, and how we can work together more effectively while celebrating the unique gifts and identity of each church.

Above all, we seek to listen carefully to one another and to God as we discern the way forward together.

Redditch Mission Area

newsletter

July 2026



Bags of Hope – Can You Help?

A huge **Thank You** to everyone across our churches who has already donated items or offered support for Bags of Hope. Together we are helping local children start the new school year with dignity, confidence and hope.

We are also delighted to say that Bags of Hope has been awarded a **£1,500 grant from the West Midlands Racial Justice Initiative**, enabling us to include resources that celebrate the diversity of our community.

We still need donations of backpacks, stationery, pencil cases, refillable water bottles, lunch boxes and other school essentials.

Most of all, we need you! If you can spare an hour – or even half an hour – on Saturday 22 August between 9.00am and 4.00pm, please sign up here:

<https://doodle.com/sign-up-sheet/participate/4120df0d-fdde-4fed-ab5e-6cff382eebad/select>
and come and be part of this shared mission.

As families visit Bags of Hope, we have a wonderful opportunity to introduce them to the life of our churches. If there's an event, activity or ministry you'd like us to highlight, please let us know.

We're looking for at least one volunteer from each church to help represent our church family on the day – could that be you?

If you can't sign up online, simply email or call Elaine and she'll be happy to add your name.
elaine@cofe-redditch.org.uk 07836 644445