

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022**Embargoed until Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022**

## **Retford Christmas Market & Lights Switch-On 2022**

### **Save the date - Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 10am – 6pm**

**There is a new improved grand finale planned for this year's biggest ever Retford Christmas Market & Lights Switch-On.**

Retford Business Forum, in partnership with North Notts BID and Bassetlaw District Council, are planning more stalls than ever before, reaching further into the town – the biggest craft market ever – bigger even than last year. Santa will be there, courtesy of Retford Lions, so will the Blue Ice Cheerleaders. Local band, The Sods, are back, and so are Julie Coates and David Bean, Elizabethan Academy, The Performance Hub, Worksop Salvation Army Band, LCSD Dance Academy, Jo Jingles, Majestic Theatre School, the Panto Dame, Jessica Mary Brett and Santa's Little Helper.

At 5pm, when Santa's Little Helper presses the plunger to turn on the lights, hold onto your eardrums as top tribute band, Slyde, belt out *Merry Christmas, Everybody*. Who needs fireworks?! Following a number of requests from local residents about the effect on children and pets, Retford Business Forum has decided to stop using fireworks, and to spend the money saved to fund a 45minute performance from Slyde and to put more stalls and entertainment along Carolgate.

Longer entertainment, more fun.... a better Christmas Market! Further updates will be available nearer the time on Facebook: Retford Business Forum, and the website [www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk](http://www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk)

Sally Gillborn, chief executive of North Notts BID, said:

"The annual Christmas market and lights switch-on is a spectacular event for the Retford community, so we are thrilled to sponsor this year's event and partner with Retford Business Forum and Bassetlaw District Council to deliver a packed Sunday of festive entertainment.

Now in our second term, we recognise the continuing importance to support local retailers through this period of trading and help to elevate the Christmas experience in our towns."

Cllr Madelaine Richardson, Chair of Bassetlaw District Council, said:

"It's great to see that preparations are already in place to hold an even bigger and better Christmas Celebration in Retford. Even though we still have the summer to enjoy, this event is certainly one to put in your diaries and I can't wait to see everyone there."

Rick Brand, Chair of Retford Business Forum said:

"We are delighted to be working with our partners and volunteers to plan yet another great Retford Christmas Market and Lights Switch-on event. There is already a massive interest in stall bookings, and we are looking forward to welcoming visitors to our wonderful town from near and far."

**Please support your Christmas market – help keep Retford Town Centre alive!**



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, and information about Retford Business Forum can be found at [www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk](http://www.retfordbusinessforum.org.uk)

Photographs are from previous Retford Christmas Markets and as supplied by entertainers