



24 November 2009

## **Get ready for Santa Claus coming to Rugby town**

Rugby Town Centre is getting ready for the festive season as Santa's Grotto returns for a second year running. Following the success of last year, Santa will be returning to St Andrews Church from Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December and for every weekend in the run up to Christmas. Residents, shoppers and visitors alike will also be able to take in the annual Christmas Tree Festival that will be on display in the Church at the same time.

Every Saturday from 10am-4pm starting from the 5<sup>th</sup> December St Andrew's Church will be home to Santa's Grotto. The Grotto will be open after church service on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> and then will stay open until Christmas Eve. Every child who visits will also receive a small present.

St Andrew's Church won't just be home to Santa for the coming weeks, they will also be holding the Christmas Tree Festival where locals have been invited to enter decorated Christmas trees for the annual competition. Everyone is invited to come along and see the entries for the best decorated Christmas trees in Rugby. The festival opens on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> through to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> through to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December from 10am-4pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 1-4pm on Sundays.

"It was the first time last year that we had a Santa's Grotto in Rugby Town Centre and it proved so successful that we are pleased to welcome it back," explained Aftab Gaffar, Operations Director at Rugby BID. "It will be a great treat for the children and the Christmas Tree Festival will add an extra festive touch to everyone's visit to the Grotto."

The Grotto will be run by the Rugby Rotary Club and The Inner Wheel Club and a small charge will apply for visitors. The money raised will go to support charities at home and abroad. The Christmas Tree Festival donations will go towards supporting Townthorns Retirement Home, which looks after a lot of elderly Rugbeians.