

## Rhyl to get into the festive spirit with lights switch-on

CORONATION Street star and X Factor winner Shayne Ward is set to bring festive magic to Rhyl.



The town will shimmer and sparkle when Shayne turns on the town's Christmas lights on Saturday 1st December. He will be joined by Rhyl Mayor Councillor Win Mullen-James to start the festive celebrations.

Shayne, 34, has enjoyed a stellar career. Since winning the UK X Factor in 2005, he has released three albums, played London's O2 Arena, sold over 3 million albums, achieved a staggering 14 Platinum discs, had number one albums in 9 countries. The TV favourite has rocked West End audiences and ice-skated back onto Saturday night TV. Shayne is, still to this date, the most successful solo male X Factor winner.

He has also won countless awards for his role as Coronation Street's Aidan O'Connor, attracting huge critical acclaim and more recently highlighting important issues around mental health.

Shayne's successes include seeing his debut album going 4 x Platinum in Ireland, and platinum in the UK. His singles 'That's My Goal', 'No Promises', 'If That's Ok With You' & 'No You Hang Up' were all hits in the UK and in Europe.

Manchester born and bred, Shayne's family hails from Ireland, a connection he is fiercely proud of. A perfectionist when it comes to his performing, he is most at home on the stage, where his infectious vocals and incredible presence come alive. For him nothing is better than being in front of a live audience, so this promises to be a great event.

A number of performers will also be taking part in the event including former Emmerdale star Natalie Anderson plus local pop duo Sky Light Aura, female vocalist Bethan Tomkins and Serenity Royal.

The cast of Rhyl Pavilion's Seasonal Pantomime Aladdin will keep the crowds entertained alongside costumed street performers and stilt walkers.

The afternoon's entertainment will start on the High Street at 2.00pm and finish with a short firework finale.

The event is organised by Denbighshire County Council and supported by Rhyl Town Council.

Councillor Hugh Evans OBE, Leader of Denbighshire County Council said: "Once again Rhyl's Christmas lights switch-on will be a brilliant festive event for the whole family.

"I would encourage families to come down and enjoy the atmosphere and get into the Christmas spirit. It will also showcase the fantastic range of shops in the town centre and will offer the chance to see what Rhyl has to offer."

Rhyl Mayor Cllr Win Mullen-James said: "Rhyl's Christmas lights switch-on promises to be a show-stopper and the town council is delighted to once again be supporting a packed afternoon of entertainment. To be attracting a star of Shayne's calibre is fantastic and I am sure he will be given a warm Rhyl welcome."