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**Enjoy a fun filled day at the
Big Christmas Lights Switch On 15th November**

This year's Big Christmas Lights Switch On Event is taking place on Sunday 15th November and Love Cambridge invite you to join them in the fun and festivities.

In partnership with Cambridge City Council, Grand Arcade the official event sponsors and Heart 103, Love Cambridge will set the city alight with a programme of entertainment running until 6.00pm which will include the Big Switch On in the Market Square at 5.00pm.

This year Love Cambridge are delighted to announce that Switching on the Christmas lights and performing one of the hits from top West End musical, **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**, will be **Craig Chalmers**, star of the show and runner up of BBC TV's **Any Dream Will Do**.

Wearing his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Craig will be joined by local children from Stagecoach Theatre Arts School who will also be appearing in the show to sing *Any Dream Will Do*, one of the best loved songs from the Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice musical.

The show comes to the Corn Exchange for Christmas, running from 15 December 2009 until 3 January 2010. For more information about the show visit www.cornex.co.uk

In addition to the Big Christmas Lights Switch On, there will be a packed programme of entertainment throughout the city centre with performances from local dance, theatre and music groups on the four stages across the city. The stages will be placed in The Grafton Great Court, Lion Yard, Grand Arcade and of course the Market Square.

Kicking off the festivities will be The Grafton with entertainment starting at 11.00am in the Great Court with Father Christmas joined by Peppa Pig and her brother George switching on The Grafton Christmas lights at 12.00pm. Entertainment in The Grafton continues throughout the day until 6.00pm.

The afternoon sees the Cambridge United Christmas Parade sponsored by R Costings led by Marvin the Moose and Father Christmas weaving its way through the city centre, starting at Burleigh Street and finishing at Market Square in time for the Big Switch On. Joining them this year will be a number of local dance and music groups along with our

Snow Queen on stilts and Craig Chalmers, the star of the Corn Exchanges Christmas show Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

Moving over to the Grand Arcade sees their stage come to life at 12.30pm with a variety of acts including this years Busking Festival winner Gavin Adam Wood taking to the stage at 2.25pm. Heart103 will be live from the Grand Arcade from 3.30pm with the switch on taking place at 4.00pm.

Finally the day will end in the Market Square with Heart 103 breakfast presenters Jim & Emma on stage with live music from chart stars The Soldiers followed by the Big Switch On at 5.00pm with Craig Chalmers and of course Father Christmas. To round up the days entertainment, Bijoumiyo will take the stage after the lights are switched.

When the evening draws to a close and its time to go home, Stagecoach have confirmed they are extending all of their Park & Ride services by one hour.

For a more detailed programme of the Big Christmas Lights Switch On and the acts performing on the four stages throughout the city please visit the Love Cambridge website www.love-cambridge.co.uk

Ends:**Notes for editors**

For more information or media interviews please contact Emma Thornton on 01223 457446 or 07712 788 550.

Love Cambridge is the trading name for the Cambridge City Centre Partnership, a new dynamic organisation which brings together a wide range of interests, across both the public and private sectors and encourages them to work together proactively on a range of projects to improve the city.