



PRESS RELEASE

CHOIR SINGS PRAISES OF GODALMING'S NEW VENUE

Godalming Choral Society is starting its autumn rehearsals on Tuesday, 13 September in the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, so beautifully refurbished by the far-sighted Godalming Town Council. The tiered seating, good acoustics and proper kitchen are a huge treat for choir members.

The choir is currently rehearsing *Carmina Burana*, an amazing modern setting of medieval songs discovered in a monastery at Beuern; it is the only modern choral work guaranteed to sell out in the USA. Christmas choruses from the *Messiah* will be on the programme too – Alleluia! The concert will be held on Sunday, 11 December at Charterhouse Hall. Come and join us! Open rehearsals for the first few weeks – just come along at 7.30pm on a Tuesday evening. Look us up on www.godalmingchoral.org.uk. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter @GodalmingSings

The Mayor of Godalming, Councillor David Hunter, said: 'The Town Council is delighted to welcome Godalming's own choral society to rehearse in the Wilfrid Noyce Centre right at the heart of the town. This is the sort of community activity for which we invested in the venue.'

Tim Dutton, Chairman of Godalming Choral Society, said: 'The choir has been a part of Godalming's life since 1856 but has a modern outlook. We are so looking forward to singing in our new home, the Wilfrid Noyce Centre. The facility is ideally located in the town, and the Town Council has made such a good job of improving it that the place is ideal. We want to contribute to the Godalming community and be part of the town centre's vitality. So if you enjoy singing (or think you might), why not join us?'

Ends

In case of query please contact:

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Information for Editors

Wilfrid Noyce Centre - Godalming Town Council recently completely renovated and refurbished the Wilfrid Noyce Centre at a cost of £1,056,438. It was reopened on 12 March 2016.

Godalming Choral Society - The choir was established originally in 1856 and reformed in 1967. Michael Veazey, who took up the baton in 2007, is only its third conductor since then. His orchestra of picked young players, the *Eroica*, usually plays alongside the choir. The choir's president is Jonathan Veira, the international opera singer who takes an active interest and appears at rehearsals and singing days.

The choir has about 70 singers and performs works across the choral repertoire from oratorio to part songs, with plenty of modern music too. Recently the choir sang Richard Blackford's 'Mirror of Perfection', the composer applauding in the audience.

The choir is welcoming new singers with some experience to all voice parts.

The programme for the next season:

- 11 December 2016 – Orff 'Carmina Burana', Handel – selection from 'The Messiah'
- 2 April 2017 – Haydn, 'The Creation'
- Summer 2017 – Chilcott, 'Little Jazz Mass'