

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For immediate release**

### **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS UP IN GODALMING!**

Godalming Town Council's Christmas Festival & Lights' Switch-on takes place on Saturday, 30 November from 10.00am-6.00pm, when the town will once again host a Christmas market with over 60 stalls full of Christmas present ideas, festive gifts, baubles, candles and a wide range of delicious street food and drink. Godalming's retailers and innkeepers are set to welcome you throughout the day. Special guest Peppa Pig will be appearing at intervals throughout the day at Godalming Museum at the top of the High Street. Peppa will be wearing her special Christmas Jumper ahead of Christmas Jumper Day in support of Save the Children. There will also be a chance to hear her new single "Bing Bong Christmas".

Children will be also be able to enjoy free pony rides and say hello to Dexter, Merla and friends in Church Street and ride the Dobby Horse Carousel in Crown Court. Santa's Grotto will be at the Wilfrid Noyce Centre thanks to the Godalming & District Chamber of Commerce assisted by Downs Solicitors and the Godalming Food Company. They will be joined by Moss Lane School who will be laying on Christmas themed craft activities and The Meath will be providing delicious cakes and welcome refreshments.

There is a full programme of entertainment at The Pepperpot and opening the proceedings will be Moss Lane School's choir who delighted the crowds last year followed by the Godalming Theatre Group who will be making a special guest appearance. Find the magical Christmas Orb where you can take a "sparkly selfie".

The Christmas Lights' Switch-on will be hosted by Eagle Radio's Simon Rose who will be ably assisted by X-Factor finalist Holly Tandy along with Jamie Brook and Yolanda Ovide who are all appearing in the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre's pantomime Sleeping Beauty. The festival would not be complete without the superb Godalming Band who this year will be joined by Tom George from Godalming Rock Choir to lead the crowd in singing Christmas songs after the lights are switched on. The town's Christmas lights will be illuminating the town until 12<sup>th</sup> Night.

Godalming Town Mayor, Councillor Penny Rivers said, "The Christmas Festival & Lights' Switch-on is a magical time for family and friends to enjoy and share together and I look forward to seeing you there!"

Tim Ostle, Commercial Director of the Charterhouse Club, sponsors of the festival said, “Here at Charterhouse Club, we are really excited about this year’s Godalming Christmas Festival, which is set to be one of the best yet. Rumour has it elves can be seen around the Club the week before they join us on our stand in the High Street at the Festival itself. We have been involved in the Festival for many years now and it is one of the highlights of our year. Come and see us on our stand where you can chat to one of our experienced team about your health and fitness ambitions for the new decade ahead.”

For full details of the entertainment programme and more, please visit

[www.godalming-tc.gov.uk/christmas-festival-2019](http://www.godalming-tc.gov.uk/christmas-festival-2019)

Ends...

Notes to Editors:

Godalming’s Christmas lights and Festival is a Godalming Town Council Initiative supported by the Godalming & District Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by The Charterhouse Club.

Godalming came to world attention in September 1881, when it became the first town in the world to have installed a public [electricity](#) supply which made electricity available to consumers.

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