

# London Welsh Male Voice Choir



1st March 2025 St David's Day. A highly successful community event was held at St Mary's Church with the London Welsh Male Voice Choir and St Mary's School Choir. Afterwards Singing continued in the RBL Clubhouse bar over a pint or two.



The two choirs unite at the charity concert (Credits: Rob Cogan)



## Veterans and the church: bringing the community together

By Zara Nelson

**What a way to celebrate St David's Day!** On Saturday, 1 March, the voices of the world-renowned London Welsh Male Voice Choir (LWMVC) and the talented St. Mary's Primary School Choir united in song for a spectacular charity concert at St. Mary's Church.

This special fundraiser was organised to support two vital local causes: Oxted Royal British Legion's Military & Veterans Hub, affectionately known as the Mil & V, and St. Mary's Church's Heritage Trust. The funds raised will make a real and lasting difference in the local community: the Mil & V will provide a dedicated space offering friendship and support to former and current members of the armed forces in Tandridge, while essential restoration and maintenance of the historic St Mary's Church will preserve this cherished local landmark for future generations.

Performing to a sold-out audience of 250 people, including a number of veterans, both choirs gave moving performances. The 54 members of the LWMVC delivered their signature rich choral sound, exemplified in Men of Harlech, and 18 children of St. Mary's Primary School Choir provided a heartwarming local touch, particularly during Unstoppable – and they were! The school's head and 'musical goddess', Sarah Lewis, said that the children

were 'enthralled watching and listening to the LWMVC perform, and are now motivated to carry on with their musical and theatrical interests, wanting to improve as choristers and performers.'

When congratulated on their performance by the LWMVC compere, the girls were obviously disappointed when it was pointed out that they could not join a male choir; but the only boy, young Freddie, said he would be back in eight years' time to take up the offer to join. Go Freddie, go!

The evening was a true celebration not only of musical excellence, but also community spirit and generosity, and was made possible through the essential support of the concert's sponsors: Ivory Security (a family business run by a veteran, so who better to put your trust in?), The Gurkha Kitchen (one of Oxted's oldest restaurants and linked to one of the proudest regiments in the British Army), and Well Life Clinic (a new business in Oxted that has your health and wellbeing at its heart).

The RBL chairman, Rob Cogan, and team rector, Rev James Ashton, were 'delighted that the concert brought the community together to raise almost £5,000 for our two worthy causes – thank you'.

*Keep reading the Tandridge Independent for news on the opening of the Mil & V and what will happen there on an ongoing basis, or contact Oxted.Chairman@rbl.community.*

HEVER CASTLE



GOLF & WELLBEING

# The London Welsh Male Voice Choir

Charity Concert  
in support of

**Oxted Royal British Legion's Veterans Hub  
and  
St Mary's Church Heritage Trust**

with Special Guests

**St Mary's Primary School Choir**

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2025 at 6.30 pm  
St Mary's Church, Oxted  
Tickets from £15 on Eventbrite

Brought to you by:  
Gurkha Kitchen, Ivory Security and Well Life Clinic



The London Welsh  
Male Voice Choir  
*Côr Meibion Cymry Llundain*

  
GURKHA KITCHEN

 Ivory Security Limited

  
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CLINIC