

# Warwick Choral Festival 2023

June 13 – July 30

## Venues include:

Collegiate Church of St. Mary – St. Nicholas Church  
Chase Meadow Community Centre – Warwick Hall  
The Dream Factory – Warwick Castle – St. Paul's Church  
The King's High School – St. John's Church, Kenilworth



## Performers include:

Collegium – Choirs of St. Mary's – Playbox Theatre  
Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society – Divertimento  
Warwick Folk Festival – Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Opera  
Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir  
Armonico Consort – Da Capo Chamber Choir  
Canticum – Singing for Pleasure – Village Voices  
Sing for Joy – wellbeing singing group  
Children from Warwick schools – Warwickshire Sings

[www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk](http://www.warwicksingingtown.co.uk)



Warwick  
Schools  
Foundation



**June 13 – July 30**

Warwick Choral Festival 2023

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**It is my pleasure to introduce the very welcome return of The Warwick Choral Festival. Now in its second year, this summer's programme presents a host of live performances for music enthusiasts, singers, and anyone who simply takes pleasure from music.**

The Festival features some of the finest local and national choirs performing in Warwick's most iconic venues and offers audiences the chance to experience our town's rich history and architectural beauty while enjoying world-class choral performances.

As a cultural celebration of choral music, the Warwick Choral Festival is set to be a fantastic series of events for anyone interested in choral music and is a testament to the enduring popularity of this art form. Whether you are a seasoned singer or simply a lover of beautiful music, the festival is sure to provide a memorable experience.

**Happy singing!**

**Rich Eddy**

Past Mayor of Warwick  
Warwick – A Singing Town  
community ambassador



Tuesday 13 June | 7.30pm

Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick CV34 4RA

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Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir

## Summer Concert

### Conductors:

Julian Wilkins (CBSO Choruses)

Jeffery Skidmore (Ex Cathedra)

Leamington Music continues its support for the Warwick Choral Festival by presenting a summer concert featuring the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir, conducted by Julian Wilkins (CBSO Choruses) and Jeffery Skidmore (Ex Cathedra)

The Choir sings music inspired by France and Flowers composed by Arbeau, Britten, Debussy, Faure, Finzi, Howells, Le Jeune, Lalande, de Lassus, Machaut, Messiaen, Monteverdi, Saint-Saens and Eric Whitacre.

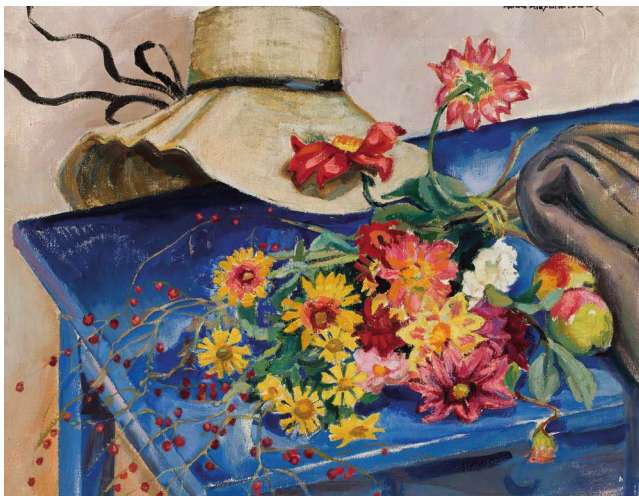
### Ticket information:

£20 unreserved centre

£15 unreserved sides

£1 students and children on [www.leamingtonmusic.org](http://www.leamingtonmusic.org)

or call 01926 334418



Thursday 15 June | 1-2pm

Chase Meadow Community Centre CV34 6BT

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Singing for Joy

## Songs for Everyone

**Sing for Joy Director: Cerys Purser**

**Singing for Pleasure Director: Jeremy Dibb**

This is an informal concert presented by local community choir *Singing for Pleasure* and singing for health group *Sing for Joy* based at the community centre. Singing is widely acknowledged as one of the best things you can do to support your physical and mental health.

**Warwick – A Singing Town** singing specialists Cerys Purser and Jeremy Dibb are delighted to bring these two singing groups together to demonstrate the benefits and fun of singing. *Singing for Pleasure* is a well-established local group that rehearses on a Wednesday morning. *Sing for Joy* was created last year specifically to support healthy living.

**Ticket information:**

Free entry



Thurs 15 – Sat 17 June | 7pm (Saturday matinee 3pm)  
The Dream Factory, Warwick CV34 6LE

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Playbox Theatre

## Annie Jnr.

**For summer, Playbox is proud to bring to the stage the much-loved and eternally popular musical, Annie, for all the family to enjoy.**

The story of Annie has become a modern fairy tale of New York – the story of the lovable little orphan Annie, alongside a host of memorable characters in her life. From orphanage to luxury living, Annie provides the ultimate feel-good musical.

Summer at Playbox is full of song and spectacular choreography – why wait for ‘tomorrow’ – see it now at Playbox!

This production is suitable for family audiences.

**Ticket information:**

**All ticket and booking information at [www.playboxtheatre.com](http://www.playboxtheatre.com)**



Saturday 17 June | 7.30pm

Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick CV34 4RA

# Collegium Warwick and soloists with the Beauchamp Sinfonietta

**Mozart** – *Coronation Mass* K317

**Vivaldi** – *Dixit Dominus* RV595

**Handel** – *Zadok the Priest*

**Director:** Oliver Hancock

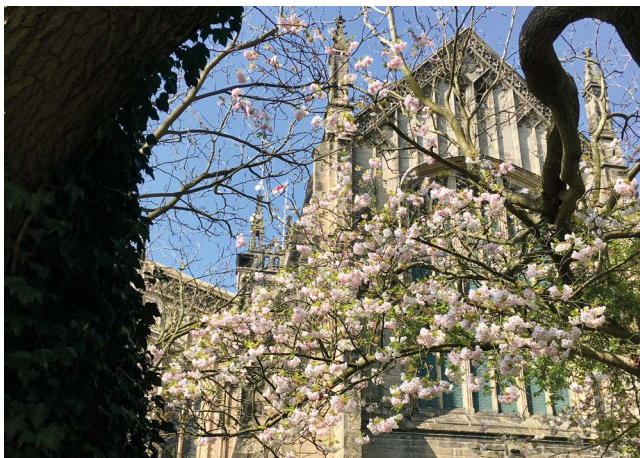
As a nod to St Mary's celebrating 900 years of music-making in 2023, Collegium Warwick's 2022-23 concerts have made a feature of that great hymn of praise, the *Te Deum* – Elgar, Stanford's *setting in B flat*, and Sullivan's *Festival Te Deum* to come - in collaboration with brass and the Beauchamp Sinfonietta. For this summer concert, however, we are delighted to be joining forces with the Beauchamp Sinfonietta once again in celebration of the coronation of HM Charles III, featuring Mozart's joyous *Coronation Mass* K317, Vivaldi's *Dixit Dominus* RV595 and Handel's coronation anthem *Zadok the Priest*.

**Ticket information:**

£15 – accompanied under-16s free

Tickets available from members of Collegium or on the door.

All as shown in the *What's On* section of St Mary's website.



**Tuesday 20 June | 6.30-8pm**

**Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick CV34 4RA**

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The Rotary Club of Warwick

# **The Mid-Summer Young People's Concert**

**Performances by children and young people from local schools.**

With well over 100 young performers from seven local schools taking part, this lovely concert continues a proud tradition of Warwick Rotary supporting music making in the school community. **Warwick – A Singing Town** is very pleased to support this event in which all profits go directly back to the participating schools.

**Ticket information:**

**£6 – children under 16 £1**

**From Claridges, Warwick Tourist information Centre and participating schools**



Rotary Club of  
Warwick



Thursday 22 June | 7.30pm

Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick CV34 4RA

Armonico Consort and Baroque Players

# Monteverdi *Vespers*

**Director: Christopher Monks**

**Featuring the English Cornett & Sackbutt Ensemble**

A towering masterpiece of the early Baroque and one of the greatest pillars of music history, Monteverdi's *Vespers* of 1610 offer a stunning array of brilliant instrumental writing, opulent choruses and moving arias.

Over 400 years ago this astounding work marked the end of the Renaissance and the beginning of the Baroque. The publication in 1610 almost certainly helped Monteverdi gain the prestigious post of maestro di cappella at St Mark's in Venice, which he would keep until his death in 1643.

**Ticket information:**

**Tickets from: £17.50**

**01926 334418 or [www.armonico.org.uk](http://www.armonico.org.uk)**

21  
ARMONICO  
CONSORT  
YEARS

THE ENCORE  
APPEAL





Saturday 24 June | 7.30pm  
The King's High school hall

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Canticum

## *Feel the Spirit* by John Rutter

**Director:** Richard Nicholson

Canticum is the open access choir for parents, students and friends of the Warwick Independent Schools Foundation and is directed by Foundation Principal Richard Nicholson.

Formed in October 2022 the choir continue a British theme following performances of *St. Nicholas* in the Autumn and *The Armed Man* in the Spring with a performance of John Rutter's *Feel the Spirit*.

**Ticket information:**

Tickets available from the Bridgehouse Theatre Box Office  
[www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/](http://www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/)



Saturday 24 June | 7.30pm

Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick CV34 4RA

# The Choirs of The Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick with the Beauchamp Sinfonietta

**Director:** Oliver Hancock

**Organists:** Mark Swinton and Colin Millington

**Including music by Wesley, Haydn, Bainton, Stanford, Finzi, and Duruflé.**

The Choirs of The Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick are delighted – in this year celebrating 900 years of music at St Mary’s – to offer a feast of choral music in their summer concert. Whether Stanford’s criticism of warring nations, Haydn’s fiery madness contrasting with the balm of having God ‘with you’, or Bainton’s masterful depiction of the new Jerusalem, the concert aims to comfort and console. The first half features a number of choral staples –including Wesley *Blessed be the God and Father* and Haydn *Insanae et vanae curae*, and Duruflé’s masterwork *Requiem* (Op.9) makes up the second half.

**Ticket information:**

**£15 – accompanied under-16s free**

**Tickets available from 1 May via Eventbrite and on the door**



Sunday 25 June | 5pm

The King's High Auditorium CV34 6YE

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# Summer Singing

**Warwickshire Youth Choirs with guests The Cheshire Fire Choir (as seen on TV).**

Warwickshire Youth Choirs give their Summer Singing Celebration to round off a fantastic year of singing success! They'll be joined by the Cheshire Fire Choir (Gareth Malone's BBC Sing While you Work and ITV's Emergency Services Christmas Special) and two more local choirs: the Village Voices and Two Castles Male Voices for an evening celebrating singing! Suitable for all the family.

**Ticket information:**

**Tickets from [choristers.org](http://choristers.org)**



Sunday 25 June | 7pm

The Dream Factory, Playbox Theatre, Warwick CV34 6LE

Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Summer Opera

# *The Enchanted Pig* by Jonathan Dove

**Conductor:** Anthony Kraus

**Director:** Stuart Barker

Following the big success of the Charpentier and Offenbach double bill at The Dream Factory last year, the Conservatoire opera students return with an opera “recommended for children from 8 to 80”! Jonathan Dove has some thirty operas to his name, with *Flight* having been performed at the Glyndebourne Festival. Drawing on Romanian and Norwegian folk tales, this magical family show is about the daughter of the king who has gone off to war not heeding his advice and ending up marrying a pig!

The audience is invited to bring picnics from 5.30pm.

**Ticket information:**

**£25 unreserved, £1 students and children on**

**[www.leamingtonmusic.org](http://www.leamingtonmusic.org) or call 01926 334418**



**Saturday 1 July | 7.30pm**

**Collegiate Church of St Mary, Warwick CV34 4RA**

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Da Capo Chamber Choir

# **St Mary's 900 – A Musical History**

**Guest Reader: Michael Maloney**

**Director: John Adams**

Travel through time from 1123 to the present day as Da Capo celebrates the 900th anniversary of the founding of the Collegiate Church of St Mary.

Special guest, TV and film actor Michael Maloney (Magpie Murders, The Crown, The Trial of Christine Keeler, Truly Madly Deeply), will join Da Capo to bring to life the glorious music and intriguing history of the last 900 years.

Explore the development of choral music spanning the life of the church, from plainchant to the 21st century, with featured composers including Machaut, Monteverdi, Tallis, Byrd, Bach, Vaughan Williams and Roderick Williams. The history of music, church and town will be brought together in an illuminating narrative.

**Ticket information:**

**£15, school children free from [www.dacapochoir.org.uk](http://www.dacapochoir.org.uk) and St Mary's Shop**



Saturday 8 July | 7.30pm

St Nicholas Church, Warwick CV34 4JD

Divertimento – Best of British

# A feast of all things British: Henry VIII to The Beatles and beyond

**Musical Director: Laura Bailie**

**A magnificent selection of British music including Purcell, Elgar, Finzi and John Rutter to name but a few.**

*The Best of British* sees Divertimento explore just a fraction of the astounding variety of British choral music written throughout the centuries. From the delights of the Tudor court to the soaring, spine-tingling harmonies of Judith Weir, this is an evening crammed with the very best of British musical talent. Purcell, Elgar and Vaughan Williams rub shoulders with Delius, Finzi and Tippett – and no concert of British music would be complete without John Rutter! A truly diverse collection of choral masterpieces, and the perfect way to spend a summer's evening.

**Ticket information:**

**£15 (under 18s FREE)**

**Book online at [www.divertimento.org.uk](http://www.divertimento.org.uk)**

## Best of British

A musical feast of all things British  
from Henry VIII to the Beatles and beyond





Tuesday 11 July | 2pm  
Warwick Hall CV34 6PP

# The Warwick Pageant

Over 300 primary school children from local partner schools give the premiere performance of 'The Warwick Pageant'.

To celebrate the success of **Warwick – A Singing Town** and the second year of its three year project a suite of songs entitled *The Warwick Pageant* were specially commissioned. Lyricist Laura Attridge and composer Lillie Harris have created 4 outstanding songs depicting Warwick past, present and future through the eyes of local children. Schools have been fully involved in the creative process with workshops led by Laura and Lillie in each of the participating schools to discuss the themes of the songs and get feedback from the young performers; feedback that has then been added to the song content.

**Ticket information:**

**Free entry to friends and family of the performers**





Wednesday 12 & Thursday 13 July | 5pm  
Warwick Hall CV34 6PP

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Warwickshire Sings Schools

# Warwickshire Sings Celebration

**Warwickshire Sings is an in-school singing programme run by Warwickshire Youth Choirs in partnership with Warwickshire Music.**

Over the past academic year children and their teachers have been working with a vocal specialist from Warwickshire Youth Choirs promoting the benefits of singing. To celebrate this year of singing there will be two concerts held at Warwick Hall highlighting the music and techniques that the children have learnt with their Warwickshire Sings animateurs.

**Ticket information:**

**Tickets available from the Bridgehouse Theatre Box Office**  
[www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/](http://www.bridgehousetheatre.co.uk/whats-on/)



Friday 14 & Saturday 15 July | 7pm  
The Dream Factory, Warwick CV34 6LE

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Playbox Theatre

# Harmony

**Playbox Theatre's Musical Theatre department has won acclaim and recognition for its exciting and diverse approach to musical theatre.**

Following the success of last year's summer event, we are delighted to present an all-new *HARMONY* for Summer 2023. The performance will feature live music, song, choreography and a few surprises. Please join us for a starlight cabaret, staged in our beautiful theatre, featuring some of the most exciting young performers in the region.

*HARMONY* is the perfect way to enjoy the summer nights, and closes Playbox Theatre's busy season.

Suitable for family audiences.

**Ticket information:**

**All ticket and booking information [www.playboxtheatre.com](http://www.playboxtheatre.com)**



Thursday 15 July | 7.30pm  
St. John's Church Kenilworth CV8 1HY

Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society

## 70 years of Choral Classics

At the start of the 70th year of the Warwick and Kenilworth choir each concert will present its favourite pieces over the preceding 70 years.

On 15th July the summer concert will be *Shorter Choral Classics*. Handel's *Messiah* will certainly be represented; Faure through the *Cantique de Jean Racine*; Brahms through his glorious *How lovely are all Thy dwellings*, and *Zadok the Priest* will raise the roof and be appropriate to the Coronation year. The concert will conclude with folk songs such as the rowdy Tyneside boating song *The Keel Row*.

### **Ticket information:**

£15 or £5 for under 18s and students with ID

From Warwick Books, Kenilworth Books and Presto Music



**Saturday 15 July | 7.30pm**

**St Paul's Church Friars St, Warwick CV34 6HA**

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Village Voices

## **Summer at St. Paul's**

**An evening with the thrilling and tender sounds of Village Voices. A programme of varied choral music spanning the last 400 years and across the globe. Something for all tastes.**

**Ave Verum – Byrd**

**Cantique de Jean Racine – Fauré**

**Hallelujah – Cohen**

**Fields of Gold – Sting**

**An Irish Blessing – Bob Chilcott**

**Weeping/N’Kosi Sikelele Africa – Arr. L’Estrange**

**A Ukrainian Prayer – John Rutter**

**Ticket information:**

**£10, accompanied children under 16 Free**



Thursday 27 – Sunday 30 July  
Warwick Castle Park, Warwick

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Warwick Folk Festival at Warwick Castle

## The Heart of Folk

**Presenting the very best in traditional and contemporary folk arts.**

With the traditions frequently passed down from generation to generation, Warwick Folk Festival is an important part of our cultural heritage with a valuable insight into our musical pasts and futures.

**“The line up was great – loads of quality choice – and the fact that artists were on several times, meant we could plan our time to catch all our favourite artists at least once. Fantastic!”**

Warwick Folk Festival is a great chance to discover new music and connect with like minds in a fantastic atmosphere in the beautiful green fields surrounding Warwick Castle. What can be more enjoyable?

**Ticket information:**

[www.warwickfolkfestival.co.uk/tickets/](http://www.warwickfolkfestival.co.uk/tickets/)



Weekly Sessions Wednesdays | 1-2.30 pm  
All Saints Church, Vicarage Fields, Warwick CV34 5NL

## Warwick Memory Singers

To book a place or for further information please contact Sarah Riddell: [sriddell@armonico.org.uk](mailto:sriddell@armonico.org.uk) or call 07722 632242

Singing has been proven to be beneficial in helping people living with dementia to unlock their memories and re-establish cognitive pathways. Our weekly singing sessions, led by specially-trained musicians are about bringing people together in a fun, friendly and safe environment. They can help build new friendships and boost confidence, helping people to feel more positive and supported.

The sessions are open to anyone living with dementia or other neurological condition, but participants need to be accompanied by a carer. The sessions include fun warm-ups, activity songs and a wide variety of familiar tunes. They provide an opportunity to socialise with others and refreshments are served. Each week there is also the chance to sit back and enjoy our musicians performing a solo piece from our classical repertoire.

### **Ticket information:**

**First session free, £5 per week (Carers go free)**



# Warwick – A Singing Town Aims

1

To celebrate the joy of singing.

2

For singing to be part of the artistic and cultural post-pandemic renewal in Warwick.

3

For all residents to have access to high-quality singing and choral opportunities.

4

For on-going, high-quality singing and choral opportunities to be part of every school pupil's entitlement.

5

For the therapeutic benefits of singing to be better understood, and promoted for our residents.

Above all, **Warwick – A Singing Town** should create a positive and exciting project for all Warwick residents that will inspire and generate optimism and enthusiasm.



Sing for well-being • Coffee and chat • Build confidence

# Sing for Joy

Thursdays 12.45-2.00pm

Chase Meadow Community Centre



Warwick  
A Singing  
Town

For more information contact:

**Jo Whitten**

T: 01926 490845

E: [joannahwhitten@googlemail.com](mailto:joannahwhitten@googlemail.com)



# Warwick Choral Festival 2023

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- **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Chamber Choir**  
Tuesday 13 June | 7.30pm

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  - **Singing for Pleasure and Sing for Joy**  
Thursday 15 June | 1pm

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  - **Playbox Theatre – Annie Jnr.**  
Thursday 15 – Saturday 17 June | 7pm (Saturday matinee 3pm)

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  - **Collegium Warwick and soloists with the Beauchamp Sinfonietta**  
Saturday 17 June | 7.30pm

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  - **Warwick Rotary Schools' Concert**  
Tuesday 20 June | 6.30pm

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  - **Armonico Consort – Montiverdi *Vespers***  
Thursday 22 June | 7.30pm

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  - **Canticum**  
Saturday 24 June | 7.30pm

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  - **The Choirs of St. Mary and the Beauchamp Sinfonietta**  
Saturday 24 June | 7.30pm

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  - **Warwickshire Youth Choirs**  
Sunday 25 June | 5pm

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  - **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Summer Opera**  
Sunday 25 June | 7pm

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  - **Da Capo Chamber Choir**  
Saturday 1 July | 7.30pm

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  - **Divertimento – Best of British**  
Saturday 8 July | 7.30pm

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  - **The Warwick Pageant**  
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  - **Playbox Theatre – Harmony**  
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  - **Warwick and Kenilworth Choral Society**  
Saturday 15 July | 7.30pm

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  - **Village Voices**  
Saturday 15 July | 7.30pm

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  - **Warwick Folk Festival**  
Thursday 27 – Sunday 30 July
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