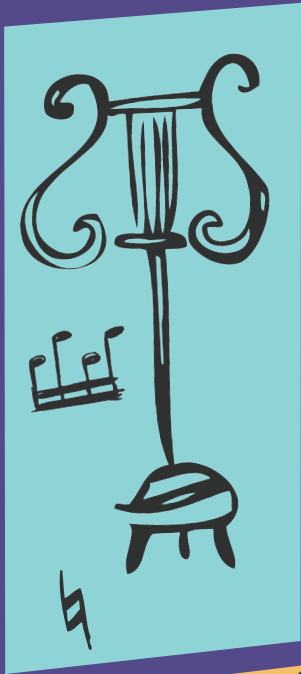


Southwell

Music Festival



23–26 AUGUST 2024
Celebrating 10 years of sensational
live music in the heart of Nottinghamshire



Welcome



It gives me great pleasure to present the 2024 Southwell Music Festival!

In our 10th anniversary year, our four-day festival will see Southwell teeming with musicians as we celebrate our town and the universal language of music. Our programme promises something for everyone, with music ranging from the medieval to the modern and everything in between.

We celebrate our homegrown ensembles, the Festival Sinfonia and Festival Voices, in an epic performance of one of the most popular choral works of all time, Mozart's Requiem. Alongside this cornerstone of the repertoire, we will give the world premiere of a new work commissioned to mark the 10th Festival. 'With What Sudden Joy' is a major new cantata by Cheryl Frances-Hoad and poet Kate Wakeling, and I cannot wait to share this new work with our audiences.

We have an impressive array of internationally acclaimed artists joining us this year. British tenor

Mark Padmore, one of the UK's most sought-after singers, is our Artist-in-Residence. The legendary jazz vocalist Norma Winstone brings her trio to Southwell. Nottinghamshire-born pianist Clare Hammond returns to mark the bicentenary of Lord Byron with a special musical play, and the award-winning folk trio Leveret will bring their infectious energy to the Festival Marquee.

Our Surround Sounds concerts return to the awe-inspiring Chapter House for a series of morning performances which take us on a journey through the musical landscapes of Italy, France and England. The family-friendly Musical Picnic is back in the Palace Garden after a sell-out first year in 2023. There will be Fringe performances celebrating local talent throughout the weekend, and you may even spot a New Orleans-style brass band at our pop-up events!

We are immensely grateful to our Festival Friends and Benefactors whose invaluable support has made the first 10 years of the Festival possible. If you would like to help with the next chapter of our story, you can read about our Friends scheme on page 15.

I cannot wait to welcome you to Southwell this August for a very special musical celebration. See you there!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Fegath". The signature is fluid and cursive.

FOUNDER AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Book your tickets at
www.southwellmusicfestival.com

or call the Box Office on
01636 330014

See full booking details on p 15.

Friday 23 August



Surround Sounds N° 1: The Italian Job

9.30–10.15am | Chapter House

Our popular Surround Sounds concerts return to the iconic Chapter House with a series of morning performances. We begin with a programme of Italian madrigals from our Vocal Apprentices, all graduates of the Genesis Sixteen training scheme. This arresting, beautiful music is ideal for this intimate, inspiring space. Tickets are limited for this exclusive series so make sure to book early to secure your place.

Programme to include vocal quartets by **Luca Marenzio**, **Cipriano de Rore**, **Giovanni Palestrina** and **Barbara Strozzi**.

Ciara Williams soprano | **Lydia Ward** alto | **Michael Burgess** tenor | **Ben Rice** bass

Tickets £15.00 – £17.50



Young Artist Series: Sonas Quartet

11am–12.15pm | State Chamber

Our 2024 String Apprentices present a dynamic and contrasting programme featuring three masterpieces of the string quartet repertoire.

The Sonas Quartet formed at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 2022 under the tutelage of Gary Pomeroy from the Heath Quartet, and they are already making their mark with fresh, bold performances.

Robert Schumann: String Quartet No. 1

Igor Stravinsky: 3 pieces for String Quartet

Leoš Janáček: String Quartet No. 1 – Kreutzer Sonata

Yente Lottman violin | **Isabelle Allan** violin | **Eve Quigley** viola | **Alice Abram** cello

Tickets £13.50 – £15.00



Festival Jazz: Norma Winstone's 'Small Print'

1–2pm | Methodist Church

British jazz singer and lyricist Norma Winstone is a true legend, with a career spanning more than 50 years.

An offshoot of the incredible British supergroup The Printmakers, 'Small Print' sees Norma joined by two of the UK jazz scene's brightest stars, pianist Nikki Iles and saxophonist Mark Lockheart.

Join us for a lunchtime of unforgettable tunes and inspiring improvisations.

Norma Winstone vocals
Mark Lockheart saxophone
Nikki Iles piano

Tickets £11.50 – £21.50

Friday 23 August



Festival Talk: A Brother Abroad

3–3.40pm | Marquee

'A Brother Abroad' recounts the exploits of Peter, Bishop of Corbavia in the 1300s. The work tells of Peter's many adventures and political manoeuvres, but also of his intense spirituality.

Composer Martin Bussey and librettist Anthony Pinching discuss this fascinating medieval figure and the inspiration for their work. You can hear the work in our 4pm concert, 'Medieval Masters'.

Tickets £5.00



Medieval Masters

4–5pm | Minster Crossing

Martin Bussey's dramatic work 'A Brother Abroad' for baritone and ensemble depicts the life and times of Peter of Bologna.

And modern meets medieval as the Festival Voices perform evocative works by Hildegard von Bingen and Guillaume de Machaut.

Emma Halnan flute
George Strivens french horn
Stephen Burke percussion
Marcus Farnsworth baritone
Festival Voices

Tickets £8.25 – £21.50



Festival Talk: Meet the Artists – Mark Padmore

6–6.45pm | State Chamber

Mark is one of Britain's most admired tenors, whether it's in the concert hall as the Evangelist in Bach's Passions, on the stage in a range of operas or as a recitalist.

A favourite of composers, several have written for him over the past three decades, including Harrison Birtwistle, Mark-Anthony Turnage, Alec Roth, Sally Beamish and Huw Watkins.

Mark discusses his career and his inspirations with Festival director Marcus Farnsworth.

Tickets £5.00



>>> Festival Fringe

Nottingham Youth Jazz Orchestra

11am–12.30pm | Market Square

The talented young players of the NYJO Jazz Combo bring swinging tunes and funky beats to the Market Square.

Free event

No booking required

Friday 23 August



Strings in the Nave with Mark Padmore

7–8.15pm | Minster Nave

The Festival Sinfonia Strings return to the Minster in a celebration of English music which spans the centuries. They are joined by Mark Padmore for Finzi's sublime settings of the 17th-century poet Thomas Traherne.

The baroque poise of Locke's beautiful canons are juxtaposed with the contemporary world of Edmund Finnis, who in turn takes his inspiration from William Byrd. Britten created a virtuosic showpiece for strings based on a theme composed by his own teacher, Frank Bridge. Connections abound in this thrilling programme which will surprise and delight in equal measure.

Gerald Finzi: Dies Natalis

Matthew Locke: Two Canons

Edmund Finnis: Hymn after Byrd

Benjamin Britten: Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge

Mark Padmore tenor

Festival Sinfonia Strings

Jamie Campbell director

Marcus Farnsworth conductor

Tickets £6.00 – £39.50



Festival Voices – Cathedrals of Sound

9.15–10.15pm | Minster Nave

The Festival Voices celebrate the music of Anton Bruckner in his bicentenary year. His symphonies came to be known as 'Cathedrals of Sound' thanks to their colossal musical structure. Bruckner's motets show the intimate, spiritual side of his work, and are absolute cornerstones of the choral repertoire.

Bruckner's soundworld is contrasted and complemented in this programme by works which play with musical form and structure in different ways.

Programme to include:

Anton Bruckner: motets

Gemma Bass: Two, Three

Sarah Cattle: Ave Maria

Roderick Williams: Ave Verum Corpus Re-imagined

Festival Voices

Marcus Farnsworth conductor

Tickets £6.00 – £29.00

Saturday 24 August



Surround Sounds Nº 2: Voices of France

9.30–10.15am | Chapter House

Marcus Farnsworth is joined by Céline Saout, principal harpist of the Orchestra of Opera North, for an intimate programme which celebrates the world of French Mélodie.

Programme to include songs by **Gabriel Fauré**, **Rinaldo Hahn**, **Irène Poldowski** and **Francis Poulenc**

Céline Saout harp
Marcus Farnsworth baritone

Tickets £15.00 – £17.50



Free
event

No booking
required

Masterclass

10–11.30am | Methodist Church

Every year the Festival runs a Young Artist Series, giving platforms to talented local young performers, mentoring early career apprentice musicians in a weeklong residency, and connecting young musicians with top professional players resident in the town during the Festival.

In our annual Masterclass, selected Festival artists pass on their skills and knowledge as they coach young talented musicians.

Audience places are free for this class. Come along and hear the stars of the future!



>>> Festival Fringe

Head Rush pop-ups across the town all day

Head Rush Brass Band are a collection of musicians from all over the UK with a passion for New Orleans-style brass band music. They'll be giving a series of pop-up performances around the town, throughout the day.

Playing authentic Mardi Gras tunes and their own take on your favourite songs from funk and jazz to pop and R&B, you won't be able to miss them as they travel around Southwell!

Free to enjoy; times and locations will be published on the website.



Saturday 24 August

A colorful illustration for a 'Musical Picnic' event. It shows a man in a blue shirt and purple trousers walking through a field. In the foreground, there are picnic items: a purple umbrella, a red picnic basket, and a green striped bag. The background features stylized trees in red, green, and blue, and a blue sky with colorful bunting flags. A pink circle in the top right corner contains the text 'Free event'.

Free event

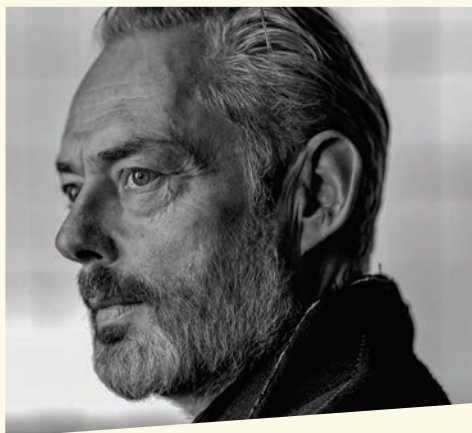
Musical Picnic 11am – 3pm

This family-friendly addition to the Festival returns to the stunning setting of the Palace Garden. Join us for a free afternoon of live music, crafts, face painting and of course ... picnics!

There will be live performances throughout the afternoon, featuring the Sonas Quartet, young musicians from The Minster School, the Nottingham Samba Collective and Head Rush Brass Band.

Don't forget to bring your picnic blanket and camping chairs, plus a yummy picnic. There will also be food (including ice cream!) and drinks available to purchase in the marquee.

Free entry but prior booking advised



Mark Padmore: English Song Recital

1–2pm | Minster Nave

Festival Artist-in-Residence Mark Padmore presents an afternoon recital featuring Benjamin Britten's song cycle 'Winter Words' – settings of poems by Thomas Hardy. These evocative settings are preceded by a varied and distinctive selection of English songs from composers old and new.

Charles Villiers Stanford: La belle dame sans merci

George Butterworth: Loveliest of trees

Liza Lehmann: When I am dead

Rebecca Clarke: The Sealman

Michael Tippett: Full fathom five

Herbert Howells: King David

Gustav Holst: Betelgeuse

Sally Beamish: Hoopoe

Geoffrey Bush: Poet's epitaph

Benjamin Britten: Winter Words

Mark Padmore tenor

James Baillieu piano

Tickets £6.00 – £39.50

Saturday 24 August



Festival Talk: Byron in Southwell

2.45–3.30pm | Methodist Church

The well-known Byronist, Geoffrey Bond of Burgage Manor, explores the genesis of Byron's poetry during his time in Southwell.

Geoffrey has just written his third book about Byron, 'Byron in Southwell', which is due for release later this year.

Geoffrey has had a polymathic career as lawyer, businessman, broadcaster and writer with a lifelong interest in music.

Geoffrey Bond OBE DL

Tickets £5.00



Don Juan: The Brilliant Irreverence of Lord Byron

4–5.30pm | Methodist Church

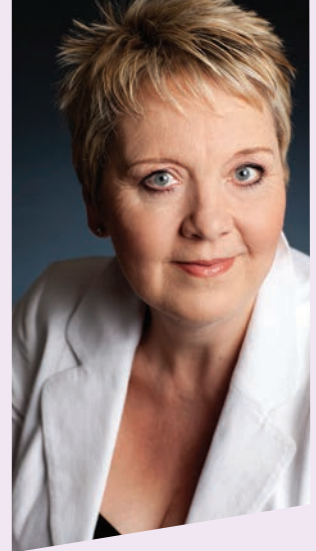
Explore the seductive and scandalous life of Lord Byron through a performance of his extraordinary narrative poem, 'Don Juan'.

Pianist Clare Hammond and actor Tama Matheson, using music by Felix Mendelssohn, Ludwig van Beethoven, Hélène de Montgeroult, William Grant Still and Isaac Albéniz, celebrate Byron's inimitable wit in this bicentenary year of his death.

Clare Hammond piano

Tama Matheson actor

Tickets £11.50 – £21.50



Festival Talk: Meet the Artists – Susan Bickley

6.30–7.10pm | State Chamber

Mezzo soprano Susan Bickley is an artist of international renown, regularly appearing on stage in the world's greatest opera houses.

Join Susan as she discusses her varied and fascinating career with Festival Director Marcus Farnsworth.

Tickets £5.00

Saturday 24 August



A Night at the Opera!

7.30–9pm | Minster Nave

Join us for an evening of high drama, tears, joy and laughter as we delve into the world of opera and musical theatre.

From the stirring choruses of Verdi to the enchanting melodies of Mozart, experience the full spectrum of human expression as we explore some of the greatest tunes ever written for the stage.

Programme to include:

Bizet: The Habañera

Mozart: Excerpts from The Marriage of Figaro /
Così fan Tutte

Loewe: I could have danced all night

Sondheim: Send in the clowns

Strauss: Mein Herr, Marquis

Verdi: The Anvil Chorus / Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves

Alison Rose soprano

Susan Bickley mezzo soprano

Frederick Long bass-baritone

Libby Burgess piano

Members of the Festival Voices and Festival Sinfonia

Tickets £6.00 – £45.50



Live and Late: Beethoven

9.45–10.45pm | Minster Crossing

Our popular Live and Late series returns to the Minster for Beethoven's hauntingly beautiful String Quartet No. 15. Composed in 1825, just two years before his death, Beethoven occupied his last few years exclusively with the intimate and exacting genre of the string quartet.

Our late night concerts have a unique atmosphere which lends itself to this kind of intimate, magical music making. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Ludwig van Beethoven: String Quartet No.15
in A minor, Op. 132

Festival Chamber Soloists:

Jamie Campbell | **Alessandro Ruisi** violin

Lena Eckels viola

Nathaniel Boyd cello

Tickets £8.25 – £21.50

Sunday 25 August



Festival Eucharist

Minster Nave | 10–11.15am



>>> Festival Fringe Music for Ceramics in Southwell

10am–4.30pm | Market Square

Local musicians will provide music to entertain visitors to the annual ceramics fair. Classical, jazz and folk musicians will be playing throughout the day.



Festival Folk: Leveret Trio

1.30–3pm | Marquee

Leveret is a unique collaboration between three of England's finest folk musicians. Andy Cutting, Sam Sweeney and Rob Harbron are exceptional performers and masters of their instruments. They combine consummate musicianship, compelling delivery and captivating spontaneity.

Leveret's music is not arranged in the conventional sense; the trio rely on mutual trust, listening and responding. Their playing invites audiences to share in music making that is truly spontaneous.

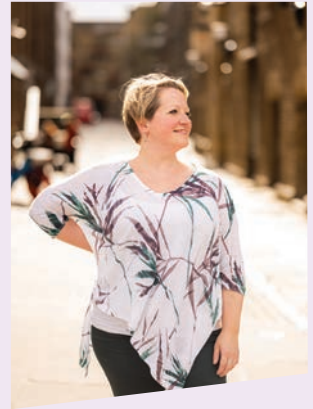
"You won't find English folk music played better than this."
BBC Radio 2

Andy Cutting button accordion

Sam Sweeney fiddle

Rob Harbron concertina

Tickets £15.00



Festival Talk: Mozart Requiem

6.30–7.15pm | State Chamber

Pianist and polymath Libby Burgess explores the complexities of Mozart's incomplete masterpiece, the Requiem in D minor.

One of the most performed and well-known requiem masses, the piece is surrounded by mystery and drama. Almost half the composition was incomplete at Mozart's death. Despite this, the Requiem was pieced together to become the tour de force it remains to this day.

Tickets £5.00

Sunday 25 August

10th Anniversary Concert

Mozart Requiem

Frances-Hoad: 'With What Sudden Joy' (world premiere)

7.30–9.45pm | Minster Nave

Alison Rose soprano
Susan Bickley mezzo soprano
Mark Padmore tenor
Frederick Long bass-baritone
Festival Voices
Festival Sinfonia
Marcus Farnsworth conductor

The Festival Sinfonia and Festival Voices comprise some of the finest musicians working in the UK today. They have been at the heart of the Festival since its inception, and there can be no better way to showcase these amazing ensembles than with a performance of one of the greatest choral works in the repertoire. Mozart's iconic setting of the Requiem takes us on a journey that spans the realms of sorrow, hope and redemption. Joined by a cast of superb soloists, this promises to be a memorable performance of a great masterpiece.

We begin our 10th Anniversary Concert with the world premiere of 'With What Sudden Joy', a new cantata by Cheryl Frances-Hoad, with texts by Kate Wakeling. The poems, created through workshops held here in Southwell, explore how music connects to ideas of memory and community, how music and silence interact, and how music can, by turns, offer us solace and spark a sense of celebration.

We hope you can join us for the special anniversary performance.

Cheryl Frances-Hoad: With What Sudden Joy
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart: Requiem

Tickets £6.00 – £45.50

Monday 26 August



Surround Sounds № 3: Festival Folk 'Turned into the Light'

9–9.45am | Chapter House

Old meets new as traditional English folk tunes are reimagined for the very special setting of the Chapter House.

This intimate, unique performance will explore storytelling through sound and song.

Gemma Bass violin

Graham South trumpet/flugelhorn

Judy Brown mezzo soprano

Marcus Farnsworth baritone

Tickets £15.00 – £17.50



Come and Sing Mozart Coronation Mass

9.45am Warm Up & Rehearsal | 2pm Concert | Minster Nave

Singers from across Nottinghamshire and beyond are invited to join us for our annual Come and Sing. Open to all abilities, we will come together to sing Mozart's Coronation Mass in the stunning acoustic of Southwell Minster's Nave.

Led by conductor Marcus Farnsworth, there will be a morning rehearsal followed by an afternoon performance, accompanied by the Festival Sinfonia and soloists from our vocal apprentice scheme.

Those wishing to familiarise themselves with the music beforehand can attend a separate Singing Day on Saturday 17 August.

£30.00 Come & Sing event + Singing Day

£20.00 Come & Sing only

£20.00 Singing Day only

£5.00 concert audience

Monday 26 August



Free event

No booking required

>>> Festival Fringe

Young Musicians Showcase

11am–12.30pm | Methodist Church

Southwell-based cellist and music educator Sarah Huson-Whyte has helped countless young people find their voice through music. For this final fringe performance of the 2024 Festival, a selection of Sarah's current cello students join forces to showcase their talents.

They will be joined by the winners of the Instrumental and Vocal categories of the 2023 Nottingham Young Musician Competition – harpist Kyla Pai and soprano Evie Holder.



Free event

No booking required

Music in the Marquee

12.30–1.50pm | Marquee

Head to the Festival Marquee this Bank Holiday Monday to enjoy free live blues and acoustic music in relaxed surroundings.

Visit the Marquee Bar for drinks, sandwiches and snacks or bring a picnic to the beautiful Palace Garden where you can soak up the late summer vibes on the final day of the Festival.



Free event

No booking required

Organ Recital: Jonathan Allsopp

3.30–4.30pm | Minster Nave

Join us for a Bank Holiday organ concert in the Nave of Southwell Minster, given by Assistant Director of Music Jonathan Allsopp. Free admission with a retiring collection for the Minster.

Programme to include:

JS Bach: Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ BWV 639

Iain Farrington: Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir

William Walton: Suite from 'Henry V'

Peter Maxwell Davies: Farewell to Stromness

Charles-Marie Widor: Final (from Symphony No 6)

Meals in the Marquee

For those looking for a simple and quick dinner option before the evening concerts, look no further! ABJ Catering are pleased to offer a two-course, buffet-style dinner in the Festival Marquee for just £15.95 per person. All dietary requirements will be catered for.

Friday 23 August 5.45–6.45pm

Saturday 24 August 6–7pm

Sunday 25 August 6.15–7.15pm

Meals should be booked in advance via our website or by calling the box office.

For more information and menus visit southwellmusicfestival.com/meals-in-the-marquee



Book your Tickets

Festival Friends enjoy Priority Booking for all ticketed events.
Booking opens at 9am on the following dates:

Platinum Friends: Monday 13 May

Gold Friends: Monday 27 May

Silver Friends: Monday 3 June

Bronze Friends: Monday 10 June

Public Booking: Monday 17 June

To become a Friend, visit southwellmusicfestival.com

Booking and payment methods

Booking fees apply: details can be found online.

Online: southwellmusicfestival.com/onlinebooking (credit/debit card)

Phone: **01636 330014** (credit/debit card) Mon–Fri 9am–7pm, Sat 9am–5pm

If you have queries or need assistance to make your booking, email

boxoffice@southwellmusicfestival.com

In person and last-minute returns: 20–26 August: at the Festival Hub in Trebeck Hall on Bishop's Drive (signposted from the Minster grounds). Credit/debit card, or cash.

Tickets booked online (if not printed by the customer) and by phone will be sent by 2nd class post. Tickets bought within 4 working days of an event will be held for collection at the Festival Hub.

Join the Festival Friends

Become a Festival Friend and play a key role in enabling us to bring world-class music to Southwell. Membership starts at £50/year. Benefits include:

- Priority Booking for Festival concerts
- Exclusive Friends email newsletter
- Invitation to Annual Friends' Reception

For more information visit southwellmusicfestival.com/friends, email friends@southwellmusicfestival.com, or call Anne and Dave Francis on 01636 330014.



Southwell Minster has level access. The State Chamber is accessible via a lift. Southwell Methodist Church (excluding the balcony) may be accessed by lift. Wheelchair access to the Gardens and Festival Marquee is via a ramp. The Chapter House can be accessed via a lifting platform. Wheelchair users are entitled to a free carer's seat: please contact us on boxoffice@southwellmusicfestival.com to make arrangements.

2024 Festival at a glance

Friday

9.30–10.15am

Surround Sounds 1: The Italian Job

Chapter House

11am–12.15pm

Sonas Quartet

State Chamber

11am–12.30pm Fringe

Nottingham Youth Jazz Orchestra

Market Square

1–2pm

Festival Jazz: Norma Winstone

Methodist Church

3–3.40pm

Festival Talk: A Brother Abroad

Festival Marquee

4–5pm

Medieval Masters

Minster Crossing

6–6.45pm

Festival Talk: Mark Padmore

State Chamber

7–8.15pm

Strings in the Nave

Minster Nave

9.15–10.15pm

Festival Voices

Minster Nave

Saturday

FRINGE POP-UPS ALL DAY

9.30–10.15am

Surround Sounds 2: Voices of France

Chapter House

10–11.30am

Masterclass

Methodist Church

11am–3pm

Musical Picnic

Palace Garden

1–2pm

Mark Padmore: English Song

Minster Nave

2.45–3.30pm

Festival Talk: Byron in Southwell

Methodist Church

4–5.30pm

Don Juan

Methodist Church

6.30–7.10pm

Festival Talk: Susan Bickley

State Chamber

7.30–9pm

A Night at the Opera!

Minster Nave

9.45–10.45pm

Live and Late

Minster Crossing

Sunday

10–11.15am

Festival Eucharist

Minster Nave

10am–4.30pm Fringe

Music for Ceramics in Southwell

Market Square

1.30–3pm

Festival Folk: Leveret Trio

Festival Marquee

6.30–7.15pm

Festival Talk: Mozart Requiem

State Chamber

7.30–9.45pm

10th Anniversary Concert: Mozart Requiem

Minster Nave

Monday

9–9.45am

Surround Sounds 3: Festival Folk 'Turned into the Light'

Chapter House

9.45am–1pm

Come & Sing rehearsal

Minster Nave

11am–12.30pm Fringe

Young Musicians Showcase

Methodist Church

12.30–1.50pm

Music in the Marquee

Festival Marquee

2–2.50pm

Come & Sing: Mozart Coronation Mass

Minster Nave

3.30–4.30pm

Bank Holiday Organ Recital

Minster Nave

All events, times and venues correct at the time of going to print (May 2024).

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