### **Lancashire Libraries**



# Music Drama Newsletter October 2025 - March 2026



# Contents

Play sets

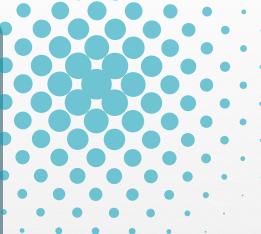
About us	• 3
Winter Season	4.
Last minute picks:	4
Vocal scores	4
Orchestral sets	5

Planning ahead 7
Spring selection 7
Vocal scores 7
Orchestral sets 7
Play sets 7

New to stock8Vocal scores8Orchestral sets8Play sets8

What's on! 9

Puzzle 23



6





## About us

We have a huge selection of performance sets in stock for choirs, orchestras and drama societies.

To hire our sets, you will need to register your group/society via the Music & Drama webpage **Music and drama collections - Lancashire County Council.** You will find information on how to place an order here, along with our hire charges and other information about the service.

You can also visit Lostock Hall Library during opening times to view the collection and take away on the day if the music or play set you require is available.

If we do not have what you want in stock, we may be able to obtain performance sets for you from outside of the county but cannot guarantee to be able to supply under these circumstances.

Please get in touch if you have any feedback on the service, or suggestions for stock. Your comments are welcome and will help us to improve.

You can email us at

#### musicdrama@lancashire.gov.uk

If you would like more information about the Music & Drama Service, or if you have an order enquiry, you can contact us at: E: musicanddrama@lancashire.gov.uk or T: 01772 534020

You can also visit our webpage

Music and drama collections - Lancashire County Council

#### Our opening hours

Monday 9 am - 4.30 pm Tuesday 9 am - 12.30 pm Wednesday 9 am - 6.30 pm Thursday 9 am - 4.30 pm Friday 9 am - 4.30 pm Saturday 9 am - 12.30 pm

#### Where to find us

Lostock Hall Library Watkin Lane Lostock Hall PR5 5TU



# Winter Season

Last minute picks... More in stock!
Contact musicdrama@lancashire.gov.uk
or call 01772 534030 for more information





#### **Orchestral sets**

#### **Leroy Anderson -**

Sleigh ride. (Piano conductor and orchestral parts.) Belwin Mills edition.

#### J. S. Bach -

Christmas oratorio. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Kalmus / Peters/ Breitkopf & Hartel editions.

#### **Marc-Antoine Charpertier -**

Messe de minuit. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Eulenburg edition.

#### **Christmas at the movies -**

Arranged by Bob Krogstad. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Hal Leonard edition.

#### **Arcangelo Corelli -**

Concerto grosso. (Christmas concerto). Op. 6. no. 8. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Kalmus edition.

#### G. F. Handel -

Messiah. (Full score and orchestral parts.) O.U.P. edition. (Edited by Clifford Bartlett.) / Kalmus edition. (Edited by Ebenezer Prout.)

#### Sergei Prokofiev -

Troika. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Goodmusic edition.

#### Heinrich Schütz -

The Christmas story. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Barenreiter edition.

#### Antonio Vivaldi -

Winter. Op. 8. No. 4. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Peters edition.

#### Play sets ~ Halloween themed plays

#### **Peter Brammer -**

Valentine, the quintessential vampire: a romantic comedy horror. (6 copies)

#### **Lynn Brittney -**

The haunted bookshop: a comedy thriller in two acts. (10 copies)

#### **Noel Coward -**

Blithe spirit: an improbable farce in three acts. (8 copies)

#### **Adrian Dale -**

Murder behind the mask: a comedy thriller. (12 copies)

#### Peter Gordon -

Death by fatal murder. (9 copies)

#### **Ian Hornby -**

Wait until the ghost is clear: a comedy. (7 copies)

#### **Arnold Ridley -**

The ghost train: a drama in three acts. (12 copies)

#### Play sets ~ Christmas themed plays

#### **Lynn Brittney -**

A Christmas carol. Adapted from Dickens by Lynn Brittney. (12 copies)

#### Sam Bate -

Christmas cheer: a comedy for six women. One act play. (7 copies)

#### John Godber -

Plays 4: Our house; Christmas crackers; Crown prince; Sold. (16 copies)

#### **George Camerson Grant -**

4 X'mas: an evening of four one act plays. (6 copies)

#### **David Holman -**

The play of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas carol", adapted by David Holman. (13 copies)

#### **Nigel Manson -**

Miss Marble's Christmas present. (9 copies)

#### Paul Reakes -

Santa in space: a Christmas pantomime adventure. (32 copies)



# Planning Ahead



#### **Vocal Score Sets**

#### J.S. Bach -

Mass in B minor: for two sopranos, alto, tenor & bass soli, SSATB & orchestra. Novello edition.

The Passion of Our Lord according to St. John: for soprano, alto, tenor & bass soli, SATB, orchestra & organ, edited by Ivor Atkins. Novello edition.

The Passion of Our Lord according to St. Matthew, edited by Edward Elgar and Ivor Atkins. Revised, 1938, by Ivor Atkins. Novello edition.

#### Pietro Mascagni -

O rejoice that the Lord has arisen!: Easter hymn from "Cavalleria rusticana, arranged for mixed voices (SATB) by Purcell J. Mansfield. Ascherberg, Hopwood & Crew edition.

#### Ralph Vaughan Williams -

Five mystical songs. For baritone solo, chorus (ad lib.) and orchestra. Stainer & Bell edition.

#### **Orchestral sets**

#### J.S. Bach -

Mass in B minor. (Full score and orchestral parts.)

St. John Passion. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Kalmus / Breitkopf & Hartel editions.

St. Matthew Passion. (Full score and orchestral parts.) Breitkopf edition.

#### Giovanni Battista Pergolesi -

Stabat mater. (Full score & orchestral parts.) Kalmus edition.

#### **Play sets**

#### Alan Bennett -

The wind in the willows, by Kenneth Grahame.

#### H. E. Bates -

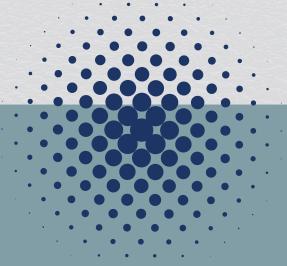
The darling buds of May: a comedy.

#### **Dlyan Thomas -**

Under Milk Wood.



## New to Stock



#### **Vocal Score Sets**

#### **Andy Beck -**

Adoramus Te.

3-Part Mixed Choral Octavo / Piano. (Alfred)

#### John Rutter -

Joy to the world: 'Handelian version'. SATB. (Oxford University Press)

#### Cecilia McDowall. -

A winter's night: Christmas cantata. SATB with divisions. (Oxford University Press)

#### **Paul Williams -**

A Muppet Christmas carol medley. (Hal Leonard)

#### **Amy Beach -**

Peace on the Earth: a Christmas anthem. SATB. (ResFacta)

#### **Orchestral Sets**

#### The magic of Harry Potter -

Arranged by Michael Storey. Full score and orchestral parts. (Hal Leonard)

#### **Manuel Lin-Miranda -**

Suite from Hamilton, arranged by Jerry Brubaker. Full score and orchestral parts. (Belwin/Alfred)

#### **Henry Mancini -**

A tribute to Henry Mancini, arranged by Calvin Custer. Full score and orchestral parts. (Belwin/Alfred)

#### Stephen Schwartz -

Highlights from Wicked. Full score and orchestral parts. (Hal Leonard)

#### John Powell -

How to train your dragon, arranged by Sean O'Loughlin. Full score and orchestral parts. (Hal Leonard)

#### **Play sets**

#### **Deborah Moggach -**

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel. (Samuel French)

#### Jane Thornton -

Say it with flowers. (Josef Weinberger)

#### **David Tristram -**

Duets: one act comedies for two people. (Flying Ducks Publications)

#### Alice Seabold -

The lovely bones, adapted by Bryony Lavery. (Samuel French)



Concerts and Theatre Productions



#### Blackburn Chamber Choir

Open Rehearsal
Thursday 16th October
7.30pm
Blackburn Cathedral

Always popular, we will be opening up one of our rehearsals for anyone to come along to sing or listen.

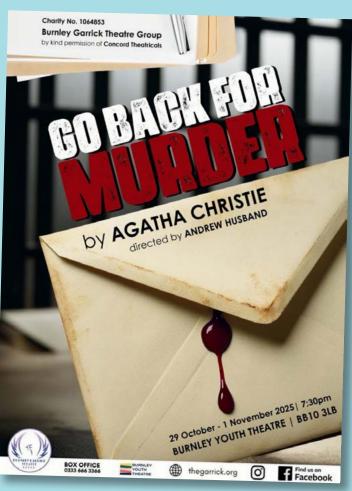
To join our mailing list, sign up on our website or scan the OR code:



Please see our website for more information blackburnchamberchoir.org

www.blackburnchamberchoir.com Registered Charity No. 506072





#### Grange Drama

We are delighted to welcome back Carol Williamson to Grange Drama as director of our autumn production.

We will be performing 'Absent Friends' by Alan Ayckbourn.

'Absent Friends' revolves around a tea party organised by a group of friends for their bereaved friend, Colin, who has recently lost his fiancée. While they intend to offer comfort, their own messy and interconnected lives, marked by infidelity, business conflicts and personal unhappiness are thrown into stark relief by Colin's seemingly cheerful demeanour and obliviousness to their problems.

Performances will be:

Thursday 30th October - Saturday 1st November at 7.30pm.
Sunday 2nd November at 2.00pm
Victoria Hall, Grange Over Sands

Any questions please contact us at www.grange-drama.org.uk



# What's on ber



#### Blackburn Chamber Choir

Come and Sing – 'Glorious Works'

Saturday 8th November 2pm – 5pm

Blackburn Cathedral

Whether you're a seasoned singer or simply love to sing, this is your chance to lend your voice to some of the most radiant works in the choral repertoire!

Music scores provided. Refreshments & home-baked cakes included!

To coincide with Luke Jerram's Gaia installation at Blackburn Cathedral, we are planning a Come & Sing of favourite choruses from Haydn's Creation and Vivaldi Gloria.

Tickets are available via our website, a few weeks before each concert.

To join our mailing list, sign up on our website or scan the QR code:



www.blackburnchamberchoir.com Registered Charity No. 506072



**Blackburn Music Society** is a large, friendly, non-auditioned, mixed-voice choir of 60 singers. It offers enthusiastic amateur singers in Blackburn and the surrounding area the opportunity to learn and perform major choral works and other varied repertoire.

New members are always welcome.
We rehearse on a Monday evening in the Hornby
Theatre Blackburn Library under the direction of
John Robinson.

Recent collaborations include Bach's St John's Passion with English Touring Opera; Pub to Pulpit, the national anniversary tour of Vaughan William's birth supported by folk musicians Coracle and Broomdasher; and Rutter's Mass of the Children with Blackburn Cathedral Choristers. The choir gives an annual performance of Handel's Messiah.

We would love to see you at our rehearsals, please contact Chris by email **bbmusicsoc@gmail.com** or phone **01254 377153** for more information.



# Salford Choral Society Sunday 16 November, 4pm RNCM Manchester

Handel, Dixit Dominus Matthew Coleridge, Requiem

A unique opportunity to hear Handel's rarely performed Dixit Dominus – a Baroque masterpiece – alongside a 21st century choral classic, Requiem, from celebrated composer Matthew Coleridge.

Composed when Handel was just 22 years old, Dixit Dominus is a dramatic and intense work with stunning solo parts. By contrast, Coleridge's Requiem offers flowing melodies and a moving experience for the audience.

Salford Choral Society's 90-strong choir will be joined on stage by a chamber orchestra from the National Festival Orchestra, and professional soloists: Daniella Sicari, Rachel Abbott, Merel Magali Cox, Jay Broadhurst and James Connolly. The Conductor is Tom Newall.

> Tickets: £21, £18 concessions. www.rncm.ac.uk



# Could you be the next Judge?

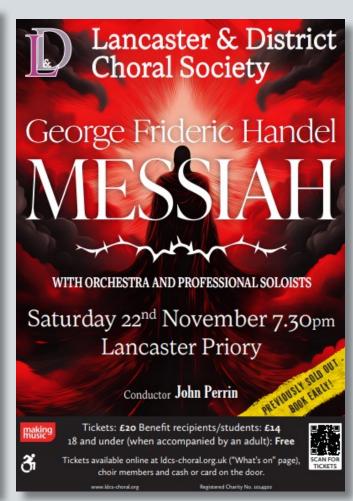


Come and witness these intriguing storylines.

This play is refreshingly original and deeply thought-provoking.

A Vacancy Has Arisen is a serious drama with an air of surrealism, set in the 1960s with a step back in time to the Great War years, and a further storyline in the 1920s.







Registered Charity No. 506072





Cabus Players, who have been staging plays at Cabus Village Hall since 1947, are presenting:

### 'That's the Spirit.' by Eileen Clark

on the evenings of the

20th to the 22nd of November at 7.30pm in Cabus Village Hall, PR3 1WL.

> There is also a matinee at 1.00pm on Sunday the 23rd of November.

Tickets can be ordered for picking up on the door by ringing 01995605608 and leaving a message for the group's Chairman, Rob Knowles.



#### Preston Orpheus Choir

Dates for your diary 2025 -26

Carol Singing
Saturday 29th November
2025 - times tbc
Morrisons, Riversway,
Preston

Carol singing
Saturday 6th December 2025
-11.30am to12noon
& 12.30 to 1.00pm
Rufford Old Hall
Christmas Concert with
Leyland Brass Band and
other guests
Saturday 13th December
2025 - 7.00pm
St Michael and All Angels, Egerton
Road, Ashton, PR2 1AJ

### Preston Cecilian Choral Society

Rossini 'Petite Messe Solennelle' Saturday 29 November 4pm Brownedge St Mary's Church, Brownedge Ln, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6TA

Musical Director: Marc Murray, Soloists, Piano & Organ

Details are available on our website www.cecilians@cecilians.org.uk



#### **Burnley Orchestra**

Conducted by Nathan Smith

Gershwin Piano Concerto

with soloist from the Royal Northern College of Music

Rachmaninov Symphony no. 2

Saturday 29 November 7pm St Peter's Church, Burnley

See our website for ticket information: www.burnleyorchestra.org.uk



#### **Preston Cecilian Choral Society**

The Cecilians are thoroughly enjoying singing under the direction of Marc Murray and have an excellent series of concerts planned for the 2025-2026 season.

We are delighted to start our year by performing Rossini's 'Petite Messe Solennelle' on Saturday 29 November at 4pm. at Brownedge St Mary's, Brownedge Lane.

The Cecilians are thoroughly enjoying singing under the direction of Marc Murray and have an excellent series of concerts planned for the 2025-2026 season.

We are delighted to start our year by performing Rossini's 'Petite Messe Solonelle' on Saturday 29 November at Brownedge St Mary's, Brownedge Lane at 4pm.

There is an impressive line-up of soloists with Juliet Montgomery (Soprano), Imogen Garner (Mezzo Soprano), Joseph Buckmaster (Tenor) and Aidan Edwards (Baritone).

This line up of soloists will be ably supported by Robin Stopford a highly regarded local musician as Accompanist. The 'Petite Messe Solonelle' is much loved by audiences and performers alike. An imaginative work full of delightful melodies that offer hints of Rossini's operatic prowess. The Cecilians will certainly have a great time both learning and performing this work. If you would like to try singing with us this is a wonderful time to join. With a well planned programme for 2025–2026, plus we are thinking ahead to our Centenary year of concerts for Nov 26 - Nov 27.

We have a few vacancies across all parts and will be more than pleased to welcome you, details are available on our website <a href="mailto:www.cecilians.org.uk">www.cecilians.org.uk</a>

Following our November concert we are once again hosting a 'Come & Sing Christmas' for all singers (SATB) who would like to join us. There is an evening rehearsal on Monday 1 December, with an informal concert the following week Monday 8 December at All Saints Church, New Longton.

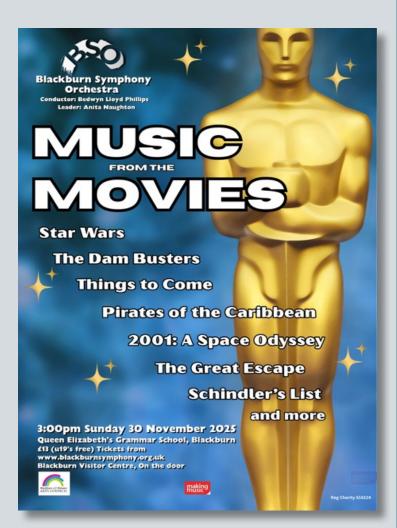
Come and join us to experience the camaraderie of some joyful singing and performing of Christmas music.

A further date for your diaries is our spring concert on Saturday 14 March 2026 at St Mary's, Penwortham. We will be performing Schubert's 'G major Mass' and Libby Larsen's 'Missa Gaia', we also plan some additional items by women composers. A fine evening of music for spring. We look forward to seeing you at our concerts.

Details: www.cecilians@cecilians.org.uk

From left to right: Martin Cassell (Chairman), Maureen Nickson (President), Sue Whittam (Mayor of Preston, and Marc Murray (Musical Director) at The Cecilians summer concert 2025.





## The Haffner Orchestra Ltd

Saturday 29 November 2025 7.30pm,

**Great Hall, Lancaster University** (pre-concert talk from 6.30pm)

- Mahler Blumine
- Strauss Wiegenlied
- Strauss Ich wollt win Straußlein
- · Strauss Morgen

#### Interval

Mahler: Symphony no. 4Conductor: Alex Robinson

**Soloist: Clara Orif** 

**Leader: Julian Cann** 

Adults: £18

18 and under: Free

Students and benefits claimants: £7 Essential carers of the disabled are free (essential carers, people with disabilities and special requirements please contact

us in advance at

tickets@haffnerorchestra.org

Please note that proof of eligibility may be required at the door for concessions and that all tickets bought on the door are subject to availability.

# What's on bereing the cember of the cember o

#### The Rawstorne Singers

We enjoyed a very successful 'Come and Sing' day in May which attracted more than thirty extra choir members who wished to sing Vivaldi's wonderful 'Gloria' with us. We provided a delicious buffet lunch for all the singers and set up a variety of stalls for browsing afterwards, including gifts, plants, hand-made cards and some lovely books. This was followed by an extra special concert of the Vivaldi 'Gloria' together with Bruckner's 'Locus Iste' and other choral favourites at St Michael and All Angels Church to help celebrate Preston Heritage Festival week.

Other choir highlights this year included a day in July spent singing at a special service at Blackburn Cathedral, followed by our annual choir 'holiday' in August which this year took place in Tewkesbury. We thoroughly enjoyed the time we spent singing the choral services in lovely Tewkesbury Abbey and had plenty of time afterwards to explore the beautiful countryside of Herefordshire. We are very much looking forward to our next summer visit which will be to Durham Cathedral in August 2026. If you'd love the chance to come with us next year and have sufficient choral experience to be a choir member, we'd love to meet you.

We are one of few choirs in this area which specialise in a largely sacred repertoire and offer exceptional chances to sing in many of the UK's well-known premier Cathedrals. If you're interested in becoming a Rawstorne Singer, we rehearse nearly every Wednesday at 7:30pm at St Leonard's Church in Penwortham. We would particularly welcome one or two extra tenors and basses but other voice parts are also welcome.

Our next 'Come and Sing' event will be a friendly informal rehearsal at 7:30pm in St Leonard's Church, Marshalls Brow, Penwortham, Preston PR19JA, on December 3rd in preparation for our 'Come and Sing' Christmas concert on Wednesday Dec 10th. As in previous years we will again be leading the special 'Lights of Love' Christmas Carol service in Blackburn Cathedral in support of Derian House Children's Hospice and this will take place on Friday December 5th at 7.30pm. Should you wish to find out more about the choir or any of the events listed above, please browse our website and explore our social media links via www.rawstornesingers.co.uk or email us on rawstornesingers@gmail.com We are also happy to chat to you on **01772 462202** if you'd prefer to talk to a member of the choir.

#### **Preston Cecilian Choral Society**

Come & Sing Christmas - Singers Welcome (SATB)

Monday 1st & Monday 8th December

All Saints Church, Station Rd, New Longton, PR4 4LN

Musical Director: Marc Murray

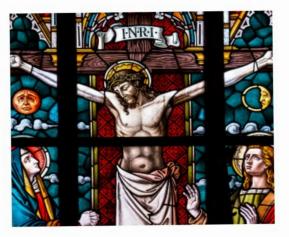
Details are available on our website www.cecilians@cecilians.org.uk

BLACKBURN MUSIC SOCIETY

MUSICAL DIRECTOR: JOHN ROBINSON

#### **MESSIAH**





SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 7PM BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL

TICKETS: £16- £20 UNDER 19 FREE

FROM MEMBERS, PAY ON THE DOOR

WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/BLACKBURN-MUSIC-EVENTS

ENQUIRIES 01254 377153 (ANSAPHONE)

CHARITY NO. 500709



## Hope Methodist Choir New Longton

#### **Stargazers**

A Christmas musical by Roger Jones Hope Methodist Church, Chapel Lane, New Longton

Sunday 7th December 6.30pm

Refreshments afterwards All welcome No charge

# Salford Choral Society Saturday 13 December, 7.30pm

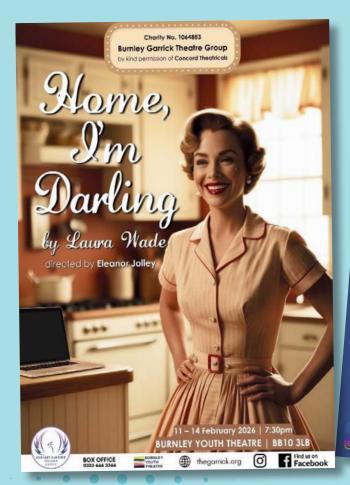
Venue tbc Christmas concert

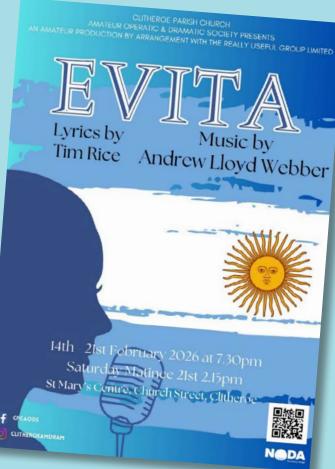
Join Salford Choral for an uplifting evening of Christmas choral music, including the beautiful A Winter's Night cantata by contemporary composer Cecilia McDowall.

Check our website for full details: www.salfordchoral.org.uk

# What's on February







#### Blackburn Chamber Choir

Candlemas

2nd February 2026, 19.30

at Blackburn Cathedral.

The service is free to attend and will be live streamed via blackburncathedral.com

To join our mailing list, sign up on our website or scan the QR code:



www.blackburnchamberchoir.com Registered Charity No. 506072

# What's on March





## Preston Cecilian Choral Society

Saturday 14 March 2026 - 7.30pm

Schubert 'G Major Mass'
Libby Larsen 'Missa Gaia'
and other works by women
composers

Penwortham St Mary, Church Avenue, Penwortham, PR10AH

Musical Director: Marc Murray

Details are available on our website

www.cecilians@cecilians.org.uk

# The Haffner Orchestra Ltd Saturday 14 March 2026 7.30pm,

Verdi: 'La Traviata' Concert performance Ashton Hall, Dalton Square, Lancaster (pre-concert talk from 6.30pm)

**Conductor: Alex Robinson** 

**Soloist: TBC** 

**Leader: Julian Cann** 

Adults: £18. 18 and under: Free
Students and benefits claimants: £7
Essential carers of the disabled are free
(essential carers, people with disabilities and special requirements please contact us in advance at tickets@haffnerorchestra.org

Please note that proof of eligibility may be required at the door for concessions and that all tickets bought on the door are subject to availability.

Lancaster City Council will be implementing Martyn's Law at this concert. They will be conducting bag searches on arrival so please allow extra time. Bags over A4 in size will not be allowed into the Ashton Hall.

#### **Burnley Orchestra**

Conducted by Nathan Smith with the Occento Choir

Programme to include

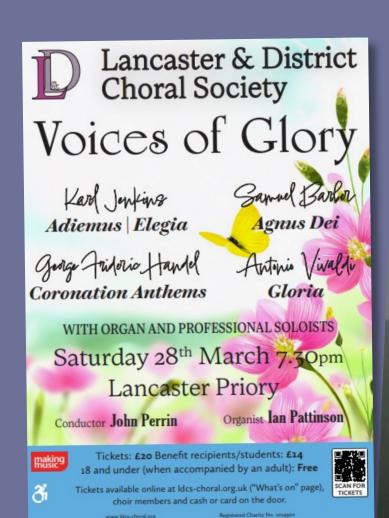
John Rutter "Feel the

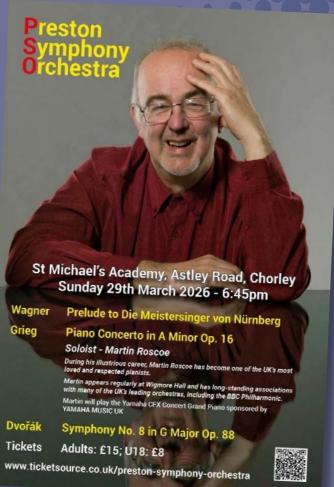
Spirit"

Saturday 24 March 7pm St Peter's Church, Burnley

See our website for ticket information: www.burnleyorchestra.org.uk







#### **SALFORD CHORAL SOCIETY**

Saturday 28 March 2026, 7.30pm RNCM Manchester

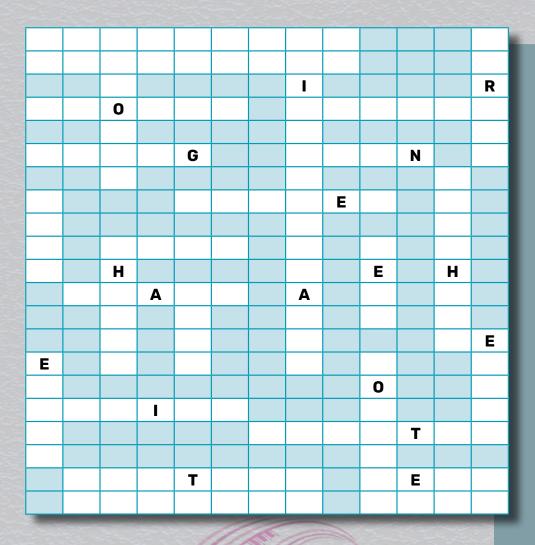
> John Rutter, Magnificat Fauré, Pavane Opus 50 Fauré, Cantique de Jean Racine

John Rutter's Magnificat is a seven-part setting of the well-known biblical canticle, also known as the Song of Mary. The extended piece draws in part on Latin American musical themes – reflecting the composer's observation of joyous Hispanic celebrations of the Virgin Mary on feast days.

The choir will also perform two pieces by Fauré, including the short and graceful Pavane, Opus 50, and the critically acclaimed Cantique de Jean Racine.

Check our website for full details: www.salfordchoral.org.uk

### Puzzle -Slot in the surnames



AYCKBOURN
CHOPIN
ELTON
KERN
PORTER
SMETANA

BEACH COHN GJEILO MOZART REAKES WHELAN

BELL
DVORAK
GRIEG
NAUGHTON
RENE
WOLF

BRITTEN
ELGAR
HARE
ORTON
RIMSKY KORSAKOV

