



CUMBRIA SINGERS

making music together

Charity number: 1168081

www.cumbria-singers.org.uk

JOIN Cumbria Singers'

BIG SING, IN A BIG PLACE WITH A BIG CHOIR!

For the performance of
**Vaughan Williams: Five Mystical Songs';
Bob Chilcott: 'Requiem'; John Rutter: 'Gloria'.**

in *Carlisle Cathedral* on *Saturday, 26th April, 2025* at *7-30pm*

Conductor: Matthew Owens

Accompanied by accompanied by professional musicians and soloists

Cumbria Singers draws its membership from across Cumbria and beyond.
If you would like to sing some of the world's choral masterpieces, why not join us?

**ALL AGES AND LEVELS OF EXPERIENCE ARE WELCOME!
No audition • No previous experience of choral singing required**

We are very excited about the opportunity to sing with Matthew. He is in demand internationally as a conductor, composer, and organist. He is Founder and Music Director of the Ulster Consort, Northern Ireland's newest professional vocal and instrumental ensemble; Conductor of the Belfast City Chorus; Professor of Vocals at the Royal Marines School of Music; and Associate Director of the Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys, in Michigan, USA.

From 2019-2022, he was Director of Music of Belfast Cathedral, where he re-established the choir as a professional adult ensemble. It was later described in the magazine 'Gramophone' as 'the finest all-adult standing choir of its kind anywhere with near perfect vowel harmony..'

The splendid historical setting of Carlisle Cathedral provides the appropriate spiritual context to complement the themes of the choral works. Using just three words to describe their feelings about singing in the Cathedral, members wrote:

Thrilling - powerful- amazing

Enriching - inclusive - exhilarating

Inspiring - exciting - uplifting

Fabulous- privilege- awesome

Momentous- Electrifying- Moving

When and where will the rehearsals take place?

The first rehearsal for 2024-25 Season will take place on **Saturday, 14th September 10am - 3-30pm** at **Ullswater Community College, Penrith.**

This will be followed by three more rehearsals at the same time and venue on:
16th November • 8th February • 29th March

Rehearsals immediately prior to the performance will take place at **Carlisle Cathedral** on: **Friday, 25th April** at **7pm** and **Saturday, 26th April - 2pm - 5pm.**

- **Additional rehearsal opportunity:** Matthew will provide on- line support for all voices. This will be available to members through a designated portal on the Cumbria Singers website. Last year members found the resources provided by the previous conductor extremely helpful: 'The online rehearsal materials were excellent'. 'The exercises between rehearsals helped me with my breathing'.

How much will it cost?

Adults: £90 (£80 Early Bird rate available before 31st October.)
Concession for those in FTE: £40.

What does this include?

- The opportunity to attend the rehearsals and perform in the concert.
- Access to online recordings of vocal parts.
- Music scores loaned FOC.

What else is on offer?

- Priority bookings for the concert and other social events for your family and friends.
- The opportunity to make new friends by meeting people who have a shared interest in 'Making Music Together'.
- You are welcome to attend **A FREE TASTER SESSION: Try First – Pay Later!**

How do I join?

The membership application form can be downloaded from
www.cumbriasingers.org.uk

Copies will also be available at the first rehearsal you attend.

To find out more, you are also welcome to contact Cumbria Singers' Secretary, Ann: **Tel: 07597 363739 / Email: annbishop22@gmail.com**