



PRESS RELEASE – Cathedral Choristers to welcome Springtime in song

The Ely Cathedral Boy Choristers, famous for their regular singing of choral music at services, will soon be stepping away from their usual repertoire to perform uplifting and beautiful, music celebrating the joys of spring.

Edmund Aldhouse, Director of Music at Ely Cathedral said, “*Seasons and Charms* is a chance for our twenty boy choristers to do something a bit different: as well as Easter favourites, the boys will be performing some songs very different from their usual sacred repertoire, including Jonathan Dove’s memorable and catchy cycle, *Seasons and Charms*, and extracts from *Benjamin Britten’s classic collection, Friday Afternoons*”.

The proceeds from the concert will go towards the boy choristers’ planned tour to Germany in 2025. The Cathedral are keen to encourage youngsters (boys and girls) currently in years 3-4 who love to sing, to come along to the concert with their parents or carers, free of charge. Edmund explains - “There are still vacancies in these year groups in the Cathedral Choir, and this concert is the perfect introduction to the amazing and unique musical training it offers, with benefits lasting a lifetime. If you are interested in becoming a chorister at Ely, we have a limited number of free tickets available, so you can enjoy first-hand the incredible sound of choristers in the stunning setting of the Cathedral”.

If you are interested in knowing more about life as a Cathedral chorister or registering for up to two free adult tickets (entry for all under 18s is free), please complete this form

<https://forms.office.com/e/8UXkNBGGBe> or call 01353 660336

The concert, *Seasons and Charms* will take place in Ely Cathedral at 7.00pm on Friday 26 April. Tickets are £10 with under 18s free.

Concert tickets and further information is available online:
<https://www.elycathedral.org/events/season-and-charms>

ENDS

For further information please contact Lesley Ann Thompson - 01353 660350 / 07930 918885

Images – The Choristers of Ely Cathedral (No credits required)

About Ely Cathedral

Highly regarded by historians and architects from all over the world for its beauty and size, Ely Cathedral is widely acknowledged as 'one of the wonders of the Medieval world'. Visible for miles around, the Cathedral is often referred to as 'The Ship of the Fens'.

The present building dates from 1081 and is a remarkable example of both Romanesque and Norman architecture. In addition to its unique Octagon Tower and magnificent Lady Chapel, Ely has the third longest nave of any UK Cathedral. The Cathedral's role today is not so far removed from its days as a Benedictine monastery and offers regular daily worship with a special emphasis on choral music. It still maintains a resident choir of 22 choristers and 6 lay clerks and so continues the tradition of choral evensong every day of the week during term time.

As well as being a major visitor attraction, the Cathedral serves as a cultural focal point for East Anglia by providing a unique venue for the arts & music, for exhibitions, concerts and theatre. Most recently Ely has gained global recognition a prominent film location including *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, *The Other Boleyn Girl*, *Macbeth*, *The King's Speech* and *The Crown*.