



Richard Carr

Richard Carr is a freelance accompanist, specialising in choral accompaniment and teaching. His musical journey began at the High Wycombe Music Centre, where he studied piano and 'cello, while also serving as Organ Scholar at All Saints Parish Church in High Wycombe, under the guidance of Stephen Armstrong and Alastair Sampson.

He studied music at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he was Organ Scholar. At Cambridge, he studied organ with John Wellingham and Anne Page, and singing with Nancy Long and Stuart Kale. After graduating, he began a varied career, teaching at Ardingly College and King's College School, Cambridge. During this period, he also ran a classical location recording business and served as Director of Music at St Michael's Church in Bishop's Stortford.

Now based in Essex, Richard works as a freelance accompanist, performing on piano, organ, and harpsichord. His versatility and skill have made him a popular collaborator for choral societies, chamber choirs, music festivals, workshops, exams, auditions, and recording sessions. His accompanying work has taken him to France, Germany, Ireland, Spain, Belgium, Italy, and the USA, as well as notable British venues such as York Minster, Westminster Abbey, and King's College, Cambridge.

Throughout his career, Richard has worked with prominent choral conductors and composers, including Bob Chilcott, John Rutter, Brian Kay, Anna Lapwood, Greg Beardsell, Janet Wheeler, Jeremy Backhouse, and Mary King. He frequently collaborates with the trumpeter Crispian Steele-Perkins.

In addition to his accompanying work, Richard is a visiting music teacher at Howe Green House School, Hockerill College, and Bishop's Stortford College.

Since 2006, he has been the regular accompanist for the Saffron Walden Choral Society, contributing to performances of works such as Rossini's Petite Messe Solennelle, Brahms' Requiem, Orff's Carmina Burana, Britten's War Requiem, and Elgar's The Dream of Gerontius. His time with the choir has included collaborations with local and national ensembles, including the Saffron Walden Symphony Orchestra, Bishop's Stortford Sinfonia, Cameleon Arts Orchestra, and Britten Sinfonia.