

Press Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 2026

Monton Choir to Feature on Bolton FM's New Radio Series *The Town That Sings*

**Following a successful summer concert, Vocal Sounds
celebrates a summer of milestones**

MONTON, ECCLES — Vocal Sounds, Monton's homegrown choir, is enjoying an exciting summer of milestones. Fresh from a successful second concert at Monton Unitarian Church, the choir is now set to be featured on a brand new radio series spotlighting the singing community across Greater Bolton.

Bolton FM Feature — Saturday 27 June, 4–6 pm

Vocal Sounds will be featured in *The Town That Sings*, a 13-week series produced and presented by John Beesley on 96.5 Bolton FM. The series, which launched on 16 May 2026, brings together 27 local choirs and showcases the variety of voices, styles, and stories across the Bolton area.

Vocal Sounds will be featured in the episode airing on Saturday 27 June between 4 pm and 6 pm. Listeners can tune in to 96.5 Bolton FM or stream online at boltonfm.com. As producer John Beesley has noted, performances from all 27 participating choirs are woven throughout the series, so Vocal Sounds may well be heard on more than one occasion.

The Town That Sings is proudly sponsored by Booths Music, based in Churchgate, Bolton, who have been inspiring music in the local community since 1832.

Summer Concert — A Wonderful Night for the Choir

On Saturday 6 June 2026, Vocal Sounds performed their second public concert at Monton Unitarian Church to a large and enthusiastic audience of around 85 guests. The

church felt full and lively, with a warm atmosphere throughout the evening. The concert featured a wide-ranging programme, from classical choral works by Mozart to beloved film soundtracks, musical theatre, and contemporary hits.

“We couldn’t have imagined a better night,” said Christine Gibson, Chair and Co-Founder of Vocal Sounds, who also sings with the choir. “We started Vocal Sounds on 25 January 2025 with seven people around a piano, not knowing what it might become. Standing there and singing alongside everyone in that beautiful church, while hearing the confidence and joy in the choir’s performance and seeing the support from the audience, was genuinely moving. I’m incredibly proud of every single person in our choir.”

The concert featured soloists drawn from within the choir’s own ranks, raised funds through a raffle, and included a freshly baked selection of refreshments. Musical Director Siân Davies and concert pianist Aaron Le Maistre led the choir through a programme that received an enthusiastic response from the audience.

Photography from the evening was generously donated by Mike Steele of Mike Steele Photography, with images from the concert expected to be available soon. Sound recording was also generously donated by Nicky Edwards, helping Vocal Sounds capture and share moments from the night.

Short snippets from the summer concert can already be found on the Vocal Sounds website and on the choir’s YouTube channel.

About Vocal Sounds

Founded in Monton, Eccles, Greater Manchester, on 25 January 2025, Vocal Sounds is an independent choir open to singers of all experience levels. With no auditions required and a culture built on encouragement, musical growth, and real music-making, the choir has grown from seven founding members to 22 regular singers in under 18 months.

The choir rehearses weekly on Thursday evenings at Monton Unitarian Church Hall, Monton Green, Eccles, M30 8AP. Alongside their public concerts, they have performed at a range of local events, including the Monton Unitarian Church 150th Anniversary Celebration, the Coal and Cotton Christmas Market, Swinton Beavers Air Ambulance Fundraiser, and the Holy Rood Christmas Fair.

New taster sessions are available from September 2026. Details and sign-up are available at www.vocalsounds.co.uk.

Media Contact

Christine Gibson
Chair & Co-Founder, Vocal Sounds
christine@vocalsounds.co.uk
www.vocalsounds.co.uk

Notes to editors

The Town That Sings airs Saturdays from 4–6 pm on 96.5 Bolton FM and boltonfm.com, running from 16 May through to August 2026.

Vocal Sounds are featured on the episode airing Saturday 27 June 2026.

Choir members are available for interview. Please contact Christine Gibson via the details above.

High-resolution professional photographs from the summer concert, taken by Mike Steele of Mike Steele Photography, are expected to be available soon and can be provided on request once received.

Concert snippets are available via the Vocal Sounds website and YouTube channel:
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKGqcnaa0gZF7sHPtG8o14TLiBY7SrfFi&si=Qt1YKliM72dUhl1O>

Mike Steele Photography: https://www.instagram.com/mikesteele_photography/