

SOMERSET CHAMBER CHOIR

Information for Singers

We ask our members to:

- **Sing:** Please sing in all our concerts – the choir obviously sounds best when everyone is there! Your absence puts more pressure on other members and could compromise the high standard of performance we aim to achieve, so please do your best to come and sing.
- **Dress properly:** Please comply with our concert dress code –
 - ♂ Men: Black long-sleeved open-neck shirts, black trousers, black shoes
 - ♀ Women: Black long-sleeved or ¾-length-sleeved top, black full-length-to-the-floor skirt or trousers, black tights, black ‘proper’ shoes (no sandals), restrained jewellery!
- **Turn up:** Please aim to attend every rehearsal but, if you are prevented from doing so, please make sure you have read our **Attendance Policy** which can be found via the link on the *Join Us* page of the choir’s website. As a courtesy to the conductor and your singing colleagues, please arrive promptly and don’t chatter during rehearsals!
- **Talk to us:** Please confirm your rehearsal attendance promptly when our Secretary asks you in advance by email, this is so that the conductor can plan rehearsals properly. Once you have said you are attending, please don’t change your mind, unless you absolutely cannot avoid it, since this disrupts our planning and inconveniences the conductor.
- **Pay up:** Please pay your subscription promptly – like any organisation, we need a positive cash-flow to keep going! Also, if you lose any music, you will be expected to pay for its replacement.
- **Keep us alive:** Please help us to recruit new members – all choirs need new members to survive, so why not invite your singing friends to join?
- **Be friendly:** Please help new members to feel at home – why not say hello to anyone you don’t recognise and come back to them during the tea or lunch breaks to make sure they are settling in OK? After all, we were all new members once and wanted to be made to feel welcome.
- **Spread the word:** Please help us to distribute publicity material throughout the County – our eye-catching posters are professionally designed and produced, and most churches and village shops will be happy to display them if asked. It really does help to get the word about, even in the 21st century!
- **Sell, sell, sell:** Please sell at least two tickets to every concert – we suggest talking enthusiastically about the choir and its concerts to friends, to work colleagues, and even to (nice) strangers - every ticket counts. The more tickets we sell, the less we have to increase members’ subscriptions, so we all have a vested interest!
- **Raise money:** Please help us to raise funds for the choir – even a sold-out concert may not cover all of its costs so, like most charities, we rely on funds raised by our Friends Scheme, on business adverts in our concert programmes, and on donations and legacies from choir members and supporters. Please encourage friends, family and colleagues to join our Friends Scheme, to place an advert, to make a donation towards a concert, or to leave the choir something in their Will - you might even consider doing all of these things yourself!
- **Make a difference:** Please consider becoming a Trustee – it’s easy to assume that someone else will do all the work or make all the decisions, whereas it could be you influencing the course of the choir’s future! If you have a professional skill you can offer, or if you just have strong views about any aspect of the choir’s activities, being a Trustee might be just up your street. There are normally no more than four meetings a year, sometimes by Zoom, and everything else is done by email or phone. Please let the Chair know if you are interested – if you don’t volunteer, you may be asked!