



**GLOSSOP
CHORAL
SOCIETY**
alive with music!

Information for New Members

Welcome to Glossop Choral Society!

We would like to welcome you to the Society and sincerely hope that you enjoy singing with us. The Society has fostered knowledge and appreciation of choral works in the local community for over sixty years, through meeting for rehearsals and giving public performances. More details about the Society and its background can be found at www.glossopchoral.org.uk

Choir Schedule

The choir year usually runs from the first Monday in September to the final concert in May. At the moment, we perform three concerts each year, in which we hope all members will take part.

Rehearsals

The venue for rehearsals is the hall of Central Methodist Church in Glossop, situated next to the ambulance station on Chapel Street. We meet every Monday and some but not all Bank holidays (advice is given at the time) from 7.30-9.30pm. We also have extra rehearsals on the Wednesday evening and on the Saturday afternoon before a concert. It is expected that members will be committed to attending regularly, in order to be well-prepared to give a good performance. On arrival at each rehearsal, please 'sign in' with the registrar at the back of the hall who will note your attendance. This ensures we know everyone is accounted for in the event that we need to evacuate the building.

We sit according to the part we sing and if you are not sure about this, you can try a part until you are happy that it is right for you. Please bring with you a drink and a pencil to note the conductor's directions on your score. While some members are accomplished sight readers, most of us need to do some homework between rehearsals and find it useful to listen to CDs of the work.

Rehearsal CDs, covering the soprano, alto, tenor and bass parts separately, are also available for many of the works we perform and can be purchased from "Choraline", at <http://www.choraline.com>. We have a discount code for Choraline – just enter Glossop in the appropriate box when ordering to get a 10% discount. Please do not pass this code on to non-members. Another supplier that members have found useful is at www.saffronchoralprompt.co.uk – do mention that other members have purchased CDs from them and you may get a discount.

****Please note, it is essential that all mobile phones are either turned off or switched to silent/vibrate mode while we are rehearsing. It is also requested that there should be no talking while another section is rehearsing its part.**

Music

Scores are owned or hired by the Society and loaned to the members. These are given out by the librarian at the first rehearsal and you are asked to return them at the end of the concert, so any hired scores can be promptly returned. Some members prefer to purchase their own scores once they know which edition is being used. These are available through a variety of suppliers including at <http://www.choraline.com> . Members are invited to make suggestions, via the Chair, for future concerts. Suggestions for our programme are discussed by the committee and our Musical Director who makes the final selection.

Subscriptions and Gift Aid

All members are required to pay an annual subscription, which is set by the Committee. There is a higher and lower rate of annual subscription (currently £70 and £50). The latter is intended for those whose commitments and income would make payment of the full subscription burdensome. Previously this was thought of as a rate for students and retirees but we are aware that being in work or retired does not necessarily reflect available income. We trust individuals to decide which level of fees is appropriate for them. Subs should be paid in full by the end of September, or if joining later in the year, within 1 month of joining the Society. If you are a UK tax-payer, please do complete a Gift Aid form as this increases the value of your subscription to the Society by the basic rate of tax, currently 20%, without costing you anything extra! Gift Aid forms can be obtained from the Assistant Treasurer. Should you wish to request making payments in instalments, please discuss this with the Assistant Treasurer.

Finances

Staging concerts is an expensive business and our Committee work hard to secure grants and additional funding. There are also various fund-raising projects which members are asked to support. Accounts are presented for approval at the A.G.M.

Concerts

♪ The first concert is normally on the second Saturday in November.

♪ On the second Saturday in December, we join with Tintwistle Brass Band for a combined Christmas Concert.

♪ Our third concert of the season takes place usually on the second Saturday in May and the focus is sometimes on one significant choral work.

All Members are required to sell tickets for the concerts.

It is a rule that each member **MUST** pay for two tickets for each of the May and November concerts, either by selling them or funding them out of their own pocket. It is usually quite easy for each member to sell their allocated two tickets as we have a busy programme of marketing and publicity before each concert, providing leaflets and posters.

Concert Dress

For concerts requiring formal dress:

Ladies: Long black skirt or long black trousers, long sleeved, plain white, buttoned blouse with collar. NO cardigans, jackets or shawls please – so an extra layer under the blouse may be beneficial on occasion!

Men: Black or Evening suit with white shirt and black bow-tie.

For Christmas Concerts with Tintwistle Band:

Ladies: Plain red top of some kind, e.g. smart sweater or blouse & long black skirt or long black trousers.

Men: Black suit & white open-necked shirt with red top-pocket handkerchief.

For informal concerts, a more informal outfit will be decided at the time and announced in the run-up to the concert.

Constitution

The Society is run by a Board of Directors (Committee and Officers) elected from the membership. There is a written constitution and an Annual General Meeting is held, usually during the second week in January. Members are provided with a copy of the rules of the Society, when they join.

Data Protection

Your name and contact details, as supplied on your membership form, will be held by the Society for administration purposes only. We often send out information by email so please provide your email address if you would like to receive information this way. We ask that you notify the Registrar of any changes. Your details will not be released to any third party. If you need to raise any issues please contact any member of the Committee.

The Committee

A list of current committee members can be provided. The committee welcomes the involvement of new members, so if you feel you would be able to help please have a chat with a committee member.

Our website

Our website is www.glossopchoral.org.uk so please send the link to everyone you think may be interested.

Lastly – if you have any questions, suggestions or comments about the Society, please do speak to any choir or committee member.

And most of all ---

Enjoy the singing!

