

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS' INFORMATION



These notes provide an overview of the Christchurch City Choir's operation. A comprehensive handbook will be provided to new members when they join.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are held each Tuesday during school term time at All Souls Church, on the corner of Papanui Road and Church Lane, St Albans from 7.30 pm to 9.30pm. Please email newmembers@citychoir.co.nz before attending a rehearsal to confirm you can attend and you will need to arrive at 7.15. From time to time, and especially when concerts draw near, the Music Director will call extra rehearsals or at different locations. Prospective members are invited to attend a few rehearsals before auditioning.

AUDITIONS

The Music Director, Dr John Linker, takes the auditions, usually after a rehearsal or at a mutually arranged time. The audition consists of vocal exercises to determine voice range and timbre, sight reading and a piece of music from the current Choir repertoire. Auditions are kept as relaxed as possible. Members are required to pass an audition before being invited to join the Choir.

CURRENT SUBSCRIPTIONS

The current full adult member subscription is \$360.00 for the year. Paying by instalment can be arranged on request. Please talk to us if cost is a barrier to joining.

The rate for full-time Tertiary students and Secondary school students is \$24.00 for the year.

Subscriptions for the following year are set at the Annual General Meeting each May.

Members joining during the year are asked to pay a pro rata amount.

ATTENDANCE

Punctual attendance is expected at all rehearsals and concerts. Please bring a 2B pencil to rehearsal and a named bottle of water.

REHEARSAL ETIQUETTE

During rehearsals, please

- Pay attention to the conductor at all times;
- Keep your mobile phone switched off. An exception can be made if you are expecting a *genuinely important* call. In that case the phone should be in silent mode, you should sit at the end of a row, and you should quietly leave the rehearsal room before taking the call.
- Do not chat to those around you, especially when the conductor is talking.

COVID PROCEDURES

We follow the guidelines of the NZ Government and Choral Federation of NZ. At present masks are optional at rehearsal. This policy may be reviewed in response to future Covid outbreaks.

MUSIC

Each choir member is allocated a music number, and music is distributed to choir members at rehearsal. You are responsible for the music issued to you, and are therefore liable for the cost of any music damaged or not returned. As a visitor, you will be loaned music for the evening which must be returned at the end of the rehearsal.

You will need to provide your own copy of Handel's *Messiah* (the Watkins Shaw 1981 revised edition which is available for around \$25 at bookdepository.com).

CONCERTS

You need to be available for all concert day preparation, rehearsals and duration of the entire concert. The Music Director usually holds a warm-up rehearsal approximately 45 minutes prior to a concert. You will need a black music folder for concerts. The Librarian may advise you where to buy one. The folder is also a good way of keeping your music in order at rehearsals.

CONCERT DRESS

Choir members are required to wear the official concert attire appropriate to the concert being performed. Occasionally there may be variations to the dress code; you will always be notified of these well in advance.

Sopranos and Altos for normal concerts:

- Smart black pants (not jeans) or long black skirt (must be below calf length); no glittery fabric.
- Long-sleeved, collarless black top, with a modest neckline. No glittery or sheer fabric or trim.
- Closed toe black shoes. No sandals or stiletto heels.
- Black socks, knee highs or pantihose.

Tenors and Basses for normal concerts:

- Black dinner suit
- Plain white long-sleeved shirt with standard collar.
- Black shoes and socks.
- Black bow tie.

CONCERT TICKETS

Choir members are offered a discount on the price of concert tickets.

COMMUNICATIONS

Choir communications run through mail-chimp email. With your permission we will sign you up when you become a member. There is a member only area on the website with a password for access.

FUNDRAISING

Regular fundraising events are held. These are an important source of funds for the Choir and members are encouraged to support these. Fundraising ideas are always welcome!

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management is an elected committee responsible for the overall direction of the choir operation: policy, finance, concert planning and programming, marketing, sponsorship, and administration.

KEY PERSONNEL

Music Director: Dr John Linker

Choir Administrator: Charlotte Ensor

info@citychoir.co.nz

Treasurer: treasurer@citychoir.co.nz

Registrar: Jennifer Sutherland

bella-bella@xtra.co.nz

New Members Co-ordinator: Heather Young

newmembers@citychoir.co.nz

Christchurch City Choir, PO Box 1652, Chch 8140

Email: info@citychoir.co.nz

Website: www.citychoir.co.nz

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