



www.wetherbychoral.org.uk

KEY INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS 2024/5 SEASON

Please see the members page of the website for full information

Membership is open to all and the Society is keen to encourage new members to join and share in the joy of singing. We hope you enjoy rehearsing and performing with us. We always aim for the highest standard we are capable of, but we also aim to have fun too.

Arrangements for rehearsals

Rehearsals take place in St James' Church, and run from 7:30—9:30pm, with an interval for refreshments and the raffle. Seating is in the main section of the church, with side aisles available for those who are vulnerable to infections. Please tick the attendance register as you come into church. To keep us all safe, please do not attend if you have any viral symptoms.

Car parking

There is limited car parking at the church. Please remember to key in your registration number on the panel at the rear of the church, or the one in the Parish Centre, every time you use the car park. If you do not, you will receive a £100 fine and neither the Choral Society nor the Church will be able to help you deal with the parking company employed by the Church to enforce parking restrictions.

There is ample parking elsewhere in the town:

Cluster of Nuts car park on Hallfield Lane, LS22 6JB

Crossley Street LS22 6NL

Riverside (aka Wilderness) car park LS22 6RF

Morrisons car park is nearer, but there is a strict two-hour limit on parking which is rigorously enforced, even in the evenings, so beware.

Rehearsal interval

During the interval at rehearsals, tea and coffee are served by choir members for a small charge, and all members are welcome to volunteer to take a turn on the rota. There is also a raffle to raise funds for the Society – please support this. Donations of suitable prizes are always welcome.

Rehearsal and concert dates for the 2024-25 season	
September	Mondays 2, 9 (open rehearsal), 16, 23, 30
October	Mondays 7, 14, 21 (includes AGM), 28
November	Mondays 4, 11, 18, 25
	Saturday 23 1.30pm rehearsal, 7.30pm concert. <i>Saul</i>
December	Monday 2, Tuesday 10, Monday 16
	Saturday 21 1.30pm rehearsal, 7.30pm concert: <i>Messiah</i>
January	Mondays 6, 13, 20, 27
February	Mondays 3, 10, 17, 24
March	Mondays 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
	Saturday 29 1.30pm rehearsal, 7.30pm concert: <i>Stabat Mater</i>
April	Mondays 7, 14, 28 (no rehearsal on Easter Monday)
May	Mondays 5*, 12, 19, 26* (* possibly no rehearsal on one of these bank holidays)
June	Mondays 2, 9, 16, Wednesday 18 (provisional)
	Saturday 21 At Ripon Cathedral 1.30pm rehearsal, 7.30pm concert: <i>Elijah</i>



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Subscriptions

The subscription for 2024-25 is £165, payable by 31 October. This is normally regarded as a minimum and members are encouraged to give more if they can. If you are a tax payer, you are also encouraged to use Gift Aid, which enables the Society to claim back 25% on your subscription, at no extra cost to you.

There may be a reduction for members joining after Christmas, at the discretion of the Treasurer. There can be a reduction for those who sing in both Ripon and Wetherby Choral Societies in respect of the summer term in 2025.

Full-time students are welcome without having to pay any subscription.

The committee wants to ensure that no one should feel that they cannot continue to sing if they cannot afford the subscription. Please contact the Treasurer in confidence if this is an issue for you, by email

treasurer@wetherbychoral.org.uk or by phoning 07860 454894.

If a member has not paid their subscription by the time of the first concert, they are not allowed to sing.

Scores

The subscription includes the hire of all music scores (apart from Handel's *Messiah*). Scores are usually on loan from local music libraries. We have an obligation to take care of these scores and to return them promptly after each concert. Please only use a pencil for making notes.

Concerts

The Society normally gives four concerts a year—in November, December, March/April and June. The venue is usually St James's Church, Wetherby. There is generally a rehearsal with soloists and orchestra in the afternoon before the evening's concert performance.

Concert tickets

All choir members are responsible for selling tickets for each concert. Sales are organised by a choir member, commencing one month prior to a concert. Each choir member will receive two tickets to sell, but we hope everyone will try to sell as many as possible!

The Society

The Society is a Charity and is run by a committee elected at the Annual General Meeting. This is held during a rehearsal. Opportunities to nominate or be nominated to the committee will be announced at the rehearsals in the weeks beforehand.

Members' subscriptions cover the cost of rehearsals. We lose money on each concert, as we pay for the orchestra and soloists. We bridge the gap by running fundraising events.

Further information

If you have any questions and cannot find the answers on the "for members" page at <https://www.wetherbychoral.org.uk/>, please contact one of the officers:

Heather Marsh Chairman heatherme.marsh@btopenworld.com or 07970 690711

Malcolm Smith Secretary mdsmith55@gmail.com or 07926 194006

Kathy Hart Treasurer kathy.hart5@gmail.com or 07860 454894

September 2024