

Dartington Community Choir – Attendance and concert guidelines – September 2024 (Autumn term)

Introduction

Dartington choir is a performing choir which rehearses and performs large scale choral concerts to a high standard, with professional soloists and orchestral players, in the historic 15th Century Dartington Hall. It is a non-auditioning community choir which requires a high level of commitment of all members in order to meet the standards of performance and shared musicianship. Together these aim to make both rehearsals and performances enjoyable and rewarding for both singers and audiences.

The principal choir concerts are twice a year, usually in April and November. These attendance and performance guidelines apply to these concerts. Separate guidance will apply to the more informal summer singing and Christmas concerts.

In line with the **choir rules** members are expected to participate in performances, except in special circumstances (Rule 15) and to attend the required number of rehearsals (rule 17). In the event of a member failing to meet the attendance requirement, their participation in a performance shall be at the discretion of the Management Committee on the advice of the Music Director.

Required attendance to sing in concerts is typically 70% of Monday rehearsals, including the Monday preceding the concert and the dress rehearsal. Saturday rehearsals (typically three per term) are recommended for all and can make up for missed Monday rehearsals.

It is recognized that members may have particular unavoidable attendance issues relating to health, family and work. It is the responsibility of members to keep the membership secretary advised of these. The current membership secretary is Diana Wharton membership@dartington-community-choir.co.uk

Guidelines for November Concert 2024

Our Autumn Concert is:

Sunday 24th November 2024

Handel's Solomon

Dartington Great Hall 7.30 pm

Soloists: Keri Fuge

Harriet Oakley

Solomon Hayes

Jonathan Lucas Wood

Tim Mirfin

1. If you know you will not be able to sing in the concert, or to participate fully in rehearsals, please advise the membership secretary at the start of the concert term. membership@dartington-community-choir.co.uk
2. Registers will be kept for all Monday and Saturday rehearsals. Members are responsible for completing the register each week. If you are unable to attend, please advise the membership secretary membership@dartington-community-choir.co.uk
3. Members are expected to attend 70% of 'qualifying' Monday rehearsals for each concert up to the concert cut-off date 4 weeks prior to the concert. This is Monday 4th November, and members need to have attended **at least 7 rehearsals by then to sing in**

the concert. This will enable the concert seating plan to be put together and Dartington to be advised of seating requirements and number of tickets available for sale. **If members have difficulty with these requirements or are unable to sing in the concert they must contact the membership secretary.**

4. Attendance at extra **Saturday rehearsals** is strongly recommended for all choir members and can also be taken into account for members who fall short for the 70% Monday rehearsal requirement. **NB the final Saturday rehearsal will be on Saturday 16th November, a week prior to the concert.**

5. **Choir members will move into concert seating from 2 weeks before the concert** Anyone not singing in the concert can continue to attend rehearsals but will need to sit at the back of the hall. All music for those not singing needs to be returned before the concert.

6. **All those singing in the concert need to attend the final Monday rehearsal (Monday 18th November) and the dress rehearsal on the day (Sunday 24th November, 2.00 pm.)** Those not doing so will be unable to sing in the concert.

7. If you are unable to sing on the day of the concert due to unforeseen circumstances you need to contact the Concert Manager Wendy Newman (mobile: **07596955788**) or Teresa Stubbs (mobile: **07981803524**) on the day, or any time in the previous week. This will enable adjustment to the seating plan, and potentially the sale of extra tickets.

8. **All those singing in the concert need to be in the West Wing and Holand Room by 7.00p.m. on the day(s) of performance, having signed the register.** If not, you will be unable to sing.

9. Please return music (with pencil markings rubbed out) at end of concert - or within 5 days of concert if you have been unable to sing.

Thank you for helping to contribute to the smooth planning and management of choir rehearsals and concerts. This will help the enjoyment and performance of all.

Rehearsal dates: These are all on the Dartington Community Choir website. Please check these regularly for any updates on rehearsal venues.