



# Ealing Choral Society



Information Leaflet  
2023 to 2024

**Ealing Choral Society** has been established for 60 years and has at present around 90 members. We perform a wide variety of choral works, with professional orchestras and soloists.

If you are thinking about joining us, we hope that this leaflet will provide you with the information you need. You can also visit our website on [www.ealingchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.ealingchoralsociety.org.uk) for further information.

## **When and where are the rehearsals?**

We rehearse on Monday evenings from 7.35 pm to 9.45 pm at Ealing Green Church Hall, Ealing, W5 5QT. In concert week, we may have an extra rehearsal. On the day of a concert we also rehearse in the afternoon with the orchestra and soloists. Regular attendance at rehearsals enables our members

to perform at a high standard. Therefore members should aim to miss no more than 2 rehearsals in any term. If that presents a difficulty they should contact the membership secretary to see how they can be accommodated.



## **How many concerts are there a year?**

We hold three concerts a year (typically in November, March and June) as well as a charity Carol Concert in December. We also take part in local community events. We occasionally join forces with other choirs to perform larger scale choral works.



## **Where does the choir perform?**

St Barnabas Church in Pitshanger Lane, Ealing is our most usual venue, but we also perform in the Cadogan Hall, Sloane Terrace, usually once a year.

## Who conducts the choir?

Our Director of Music is Peter Asprey.



He is also the Director of Music at St Sepulchre-Without-Newgate, the National Musicians' Church in the heart of the City of London.

## What type of music does the choir sing?

We sing both sacred and secular choral music, as well as contemporary and commissioned works. See the ***Concert History*** section on our website for more details of past concerts and the ***Current Season*** section for details of concerts in the current season.

## How good a singer do I need to be?

You do need to be able to sing in tune and read a musical score. It is an advantage if you have sight-reading abilities. The main requirement is your commitment to learn and perform the works to a high standard and your commitment to belonging to the choir and performing in our concerts. Please feel free to come along to a rehearsal to get a feel for the music and the choir. After two or three weeks, if you would like to join you will be invited for a voice test.



## Do I need to have a voice test?

The voice test gives the opportunity for the Director of Music to meet you and, of course, to hear you sing. He will make sure your range is right for the voice section you wish to join, and will listen out to some technical aspects (such as tone, tuning, diction and breath control) and to your musicality. It will last about 5-10 minutes and include a warm-up, sight reading and singing a short prepared piece of your

choosing, something you know well which you can sing out confidently. You can choose something from the choral or the solo repertoire. If you are unsure what to choose please ask the Membership Secretary for advice. The voice test is repeated every four years, but in group format.

## What is the subscription?

The subscription for the 2023/2024 season is £198 (£150 concessionary). For members under 30 years of age, the subscription is £90. We are currently offering a 50% reduced subscription to new tenors and basses for the first 2 years of membership. We can also provide free membership for young people aged 16 to 23, from a bursary fund. See the ***Bursary Fund for Young People*** section on our website for more details.

## What is the concert dress code?

Men wear a black dinner suit with white shirt and black bow tie (or black open-neck shirt in summer). Women wear a long sleeved (short sleeved in summer), full length, black dress or full length, black skirt/tailored trousers and black blouse.



## Are there activities other than concerts?

Yes, there is a lively social events programme for all choir members, their family and friends, including a quiz night. There is also the opportunity to socialise after each rehearsal at the Kings Arms in The Grove, Ealing, W5 5DX.

## Are there overseas visits?

Yes, we have visited and exchanged with choirs in France, Germany, Holland and Ireland. Most recently, in June 2017, we toured to Valletta in Malta.

## Can I join as a non-singing member?

Yes, you can support the choir by becoming an Associate and receive the benefits of concessionary tickets, a newsletter three times a year and participating in social events. See the ***Associates Membership*** section on our website for more details.

For further information about Ealing Choral Society please contact:-  
membership@ealingchoralsociety.org.uk or 07932 460 388