



Philomusica of Gloucestershire and Worcestershire

"We are the music makers and we are the dreamers of dreams"

Notes for New Members

Welcome to Philomusica

Philomusica was founded in 1966 and has a very exciting musical history. We perform a wide variety of music and give concerts in some lovely churches. Above all, however, we have great fun singing together and we hope that you will have a long and very happy membership of Philomusica (or "Philo" as we all call ourselves for short!).

Some basic information about Philo is given below, but if you haven't already done so, do visit our website: www.philomusica.org.uk. As a member you will also have access to the members' section.

There are no auditions to join Philomusica; instead we have a one-month trial period in which we decide about you and you decide about us. During this period, you may be asked to sing a short piece of your choice to our Conductor in private, but only if she needs to assess the range of your voice.

Rehearsals

Weekly rehearsals are 7.30pm to 9.30pm on: -

Thursdays at St. Stephen's Church, Worcester, WR3 7HS, and,
Fridays at Milestone School, Longford Lane, Gloucester, GL2 9U.

Choose which night suits you best. If at any time you're unable to attend your regular rehearsal group, you will be most welcome at the other group instead.

Members are expected to have attended a minimum number (75%) of rehearsals before taking part in a concert. Occasionally, we have joint rehearsals when the whole choir comes together.

Music

Members mostly purchase their music, although sometimes we all use borrowed library copies. Your Music Rep. will give you more specific information.

We ask new members to return borrowed music after each rehearsal to avoid problems with recovering music should people decide not to continue with Philo. For concerts we all use a Philomusica folder in which to keep our music. Your Music Rep will be able to supply you with a folder at a reasonable cost.

Concerts

Our concerts, about 12 a year, usually take place on a Saturday and there is normally a rehearsal on the afternoon of the concert. Dates of concerts are announced well in advance. Everyone is expected to attend the pre-concert rehearsal.

Unless variations are announced in advance of a specific concert, standard dress is: -

Ladies - Full ankle length black skirt/dress - hemlines must be to the ankle bone and not higher - with black tights and shoes. No trousers. Black top with $\frac{3}{4}$ or long sleeves, or jacket. We ask you to wear a jacket for the Abbey performances; and at all concerts, if you carry a bag on to the platform, it should be a small black one, please. Jewellery should be subtle and kept to a modest amount.

Gentlemen - Black dinner suit. White shirt with black bow tie. Black shoes and socks. A coloured bow tie is also required for our lighter concerts.

Fragrances - We request that all members show restraint in the wearing of fragrances at concerts, out of consideration for others. We ask all members to refrain from using aerosol perfumes or hairsprays. As most, if not all, deodorants, fragrances and hairsprays are designed to work for several hours, we also ask that members refrain from "topping up" between the afternoon rehearsal and the concert in the evening

Membership Subscription

Our subscription for 2021 is £90 a year (with a £5.00 reduction available for members aged 65+) to be paid on or before 31st March. Methods of payment and bank details are shown in the members' area of our website. Our year is split into three terms: January to March, April to July, and September to December.

Your first term is free.

Members in full-time education are not required to pay subscriptions.



CONTACT DETAILS

Members

Please ensure that you let your group rep know of any changes to your contact details.

Committee

Chairman	John Quinn	chairman@philomusica.org.uk
Conductor	Linda Parsons	conductor@philomusica.org.uk
Secretary	Kathryn Thurgood	secretary@philomusica.org.uk
Treasurer	Terry Heighway	treasurer@philomusica.org.uk
Gloucester Group Rep	Carole Anderson	gloucester@philomusica.org.uk
Worcester Group Rep	Mel Weston	worcester@philomusica.org.uk

To email any of the contacts listed above, or other committee members, visit our website www.philomusica.org.uk and click on 'Who We Are', then 'Our Committee'.

Music Reps

Gloucester	Jessica Sullivan	jessica5ft3@gmail.com
Worcester	Hilary Simmons	hjsimmons1954@icloud.com

Our Privacy Statement can be found on our website.