

Newsletter

Issue 19: September 2021



Restarting face-to-face rehearsals ...

We are looking ahead to the autumn term and are really pleased to say that we are hoping to restart face-to-face rehearsals for the autumn term. The committee are exploring all the options with safety our primary concern and are taking a cautious approach based on guidance from the Association of British Choir Directors (ABCD).

Venue

We need a large venue with a high ceiling and good ventilation, Winchcombe School Hall is ideal for up to approximately 45 people and they have indicated they will be ready for bookings towards the end of September. We are unsure yet whether the toilet facilities will be available.

Term dates

To be confirmed. Likely to be **end of September** to, the **second week in December**. No rehearsal on **28 October 2021**.

Rehearsal times

Advice from ABCD is that rehearsal times should be kept to no more than 45 or 50 minutes. There will be no breaks and members must bring their own water.

If **45 or fewer** members wish to attend rehearsals, we will hold one rehearsal from **7.30pm to 8.20pm**. If **more than 45** people wish to attend, we will hold two separate sessions on the same evening at 7.30pm – 8.15pm and 8.30pm – 9.15pm

Subscriptions

Subscription fees will be £3.50 per session, payable termly. These will need to be paid online/using BACS or cheques by post. We are unable to take cash

Safety precautions

The committee will take the following precautions:

1. Maintain a register for each rehearsal, recording self-declarations of negative lateral flow tests and that neither they, nor anyone in their household has any covid symptoms.
2. Record, as far as is possible, where members sit (we will need your help with this) in case we need to notify members of any subsequent infection.
3. Provide protocols to guide members when entering and leaving the hall.

4. Set out chairs for members with a 1-metre safety space all around. Sanitise chairs prior to arrival and on departure – members are asked to leave chairs in situ on departure.
5. Provide hand sanitiser which must be used on arrival and departure.
6. Provide multiple music distribution points to prevent people congregating around one area.
7. Conduct a risk assessment and make this available to all members.
8. Provide a list of contact numbers for members in case they need to report a positive result.

Members need to play their part by agreeing to:

1. Take a lateral flow test on the day of each rehearsal and only attend if this is negative (members will be asked to self-declare this at registration)
2. Self-declare at registration that neither they, nor anyone in their household, has any COVID-19 symptoms.
3. Sanitise hands on arrival and departure.
4. Notify the committee if they have tested positive for COVID-19 within -1-5 days of a rehearsal.
5. Try to sit in the same place each week and take a note of who is sitting around them.
6. Wear a mask when entering and leaving the hall and at all times other than when singing, unless there is a medical reason for not doing so.
7. Maintain a 1-metre safe distance at all times.
8. Not share music (or any other items) during rehearsals.

Please complete our [short survey](#) to let us know if you would like to join us for face-to-face rehearsals, and to confirm that you agree to comply with the safety requirements set out above. We are also looking for **volunteers** to help us with some of the additional tasks involved in keeping everyone safe.