



**Information for Members Please retain for future reference**

***Enlighten Enrich Enjoy***

**Are you passionate about choral singing? Do you want to be part of quality performances?**

Welcome to the Newcastle University Choir. We hope your stay with us will be both pleasurable and beneficial to you. NUC is a choir of community members, academics and students of the University of Newcastle, New South Wales, Australia. Our core business is quality choral music and a feature of our work is collaboration with local musical groups including choirs, bands, and orchestras. Our concert repertoire selection spans a wide range of styles and tastes to ensure appeal to both choristers and audiences.

**Our commitment is to work together to present performances of outstanding quality to Hunter/Newcastle audiences.**

You need

- to be able to sing in tune (practice helps)
- to actively listen to and follow the directions of the Artistic Director (AD) during rehearsals
- to commit to regular attendance at rehearsals
- to contribute to, and support, the information and decisions of the committee
- to not act in a way that will bring disrepute to NUC
- to show respectful and appropriate behaviour to others involved in NUC and its activities.

**Management and Communication:**

The choir is managed by committee of volunteers, elected annually. We work in teams that look after the publicity/marketing, ticketing, program compilation, member support, finances, concert management, and music library. The AD is an ex-officio member of the committee. The committee would love to have your skills and support.

Please follow rehearsal etiquette by carefully attending to the AD and keeping conversation for the break times. Bring a soft lead pencil and mark up the AD's requirements in your score. Each section (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) has a section leader who can help with welcoming new members. Please do not question the musical decisions or directions of the AD at rehearsal. Concerns and queries should be made through the section leader or a committee member at the break or after rehearsal.

We are keen to have members well informed and engaged in decision making for the choir. Information is shared via announcements at rehearsal, the email newsletter, the website, Cacophony and Facebook. You can make suggestions to a committee member or via the suggestion box. We do not promote other organisations or events at rehearsal, but this may be possible in the newsletter.

**Privacy:**

If you do not wish your photograph/name to appear in promotional material or programs, it is your responsibility to inform the Committee. Unfortunately, we cannot always control casual photos/videos taken on phones and shown on social media.

**Rehearsal Nights and Times:**

The choir meets at the Great Hall or Science Theatre of the University on Monday evenings from 7pm to 9.30pm under the direction of the AD. The rehearsal schedule is included in each newsletter.

**Concerts:**

The choir will usually present 3 concerts during the year. Other performance opportunities may arise from time to time. These may be connected to a specific event and may include performing in a regional or other venue. It is



anticipated that members will perform in all concerts. Dates and repertoire will be announced at the beginning of each year. Details will be provided on the Choir website and in the newsletter.

**Musical Scores:**

All music scores are hired to choir members. Cost of hire is included in fees. Music must be kept in good condition and returned directly after each concert. Markings must be in soft lead pencil and erased before returning. Loss of music will incur a charge.

**Attendance:**

Choristers must attend  $\frac{2}{3}$  of all rehearsals for each concert to be eligible to sing in that concert. This is to ensure quality of performance as the AD will have given specific instructions during the rehearsal period, which choristers will not be aware of if they have not attended sufficient rehearsals. Choristers who cannot meet the rehearsal requirement for a given concert may not be able to sing in that concert. This decision will be at the discretion of the committee, in consultation with the AD. New enrolments will not be accepted after week 5 of a rehearsal period, being deferred until the next rehearsal period commences.

Please ensure that your name is on the roll and sign this each week you attend. The roll is used to confirm performance eligibility and insurance cover for choristers.

**Fees: All fees non-refundable**

A joining fee of \$1 applies for all new members.

Annual membership fee is \$100 (if paid in full on joining a \$5 discount applies).

Fees may be paid half-yearly at \$50 each half-year.

Student Fee is \$40 for a full year on presentation of a current Student card.

Half-year student subscription is \$22.50.

Fees must be paid by week 4 of commencement.

You must be a financial member of the choir to sing in concerts. Fees cover insurance for the rehearsals and choir activities and are not refundable if you cannot sing in the concert. Pay at choir in cash (correct amount) or by card, or by direct deposit to account name: Newcastle University Choir Inc; BSB: 032-507; Account number: 104622.

A receipt and membership card will be issued upon payment of fees.

**Concert Uniform:**

Women:

- Black calf or full length dress or skirt & top, with at least elbow length sleeves
- Black full length trousers & top, with at least elbow length sleeves
- black stockings or socks
- black shoes with closed toes.

Men: Black long sleeved shirt (no jacket or tie), black trousers, black shoes and socks.

**Ways you can help:** Join the committee at the AGM; help set up/pack up the rehearsal room; help with jobs on dress rehearsal and concert day; bake for afternoon teas; make suggestions for repertoire/organisation/activities via the suggestion box; sponsor/get sponsors for part/all of a concert.



**Newcastle University Choir Inc. Application for Membership**

I .....  
(full name of applicant)

of .....  
(residential address)

apply to become a member of the abovenamed incorporated association. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.

Name as it should appear on programs.....

Home phone.....Work phone.....

Mobile .....

Email .....

I agree to use of my email for main choir contact via broadcast email –Yahoo groups.

Alternate email .....

I agree to abide by the rules of the Newcastle University Choir Inc. as set out in the Constitution and information to members. I do/do not give my consent for my name to appear in printed programs for concerts in which I appear. I do/do not give permission to be included in photographs that may be used for promotional purposes (please note: all efforts will be made to ensure official photographs comply with your wishes).

**Please sign to show your agreement**

Signed ..... Date ..... Vocal

section (please mark)                  Soprano                  Alto                  Tenor                  Bass

Membership fee (new members) \$1.00

Annual subscription:        \$95.00 full year (upfront discount)                  \$50.00 half year

Student: (on production of student card) \$40.00 full year (upfront)                  \$22.50 half year

*Please see the Committee if you are having difficulty paying fees by the due date.*

<b>Treasurer's use only</b>			
Section.....	Membership fee paid.....	Subscription paid	.....
Receipt number.....			