Ashford Choral Society
F.A.Qs

Ashford Choral Society (ACS) is a choir of 110 singers – ranging in age from 17 to over 80. ACS was founded in 1857 - with a continuous performance history since then. This makes ACS one of the oldest such choirs in the UK.

What is a typical year for the choir?

The choir year runs from September to May during which time the choir usually gives three concerts. Every year, there is an opportunity to perform major choral works with leading soloists and a professional orchestra. Concerts take place in the purpose-built music theatre of Colyer-Fergusson Hall, University of Kent, Canterbury or the churches at Wye or Willesborough. ACS also holds an annual Christmas Carol concert, in aid of charity.

Do I need to read music or audition?

There is no audition process for ACS and whilst the ability to read musical notation is a great asset, it is not essential to be a confident sight-reader to join.

As it can be daunting to walk into a crowd of strangers, anyone coming to a rehearsal for the first time will be met and placed with an experienced singer who can support them and help them settle in.

How much will it cost me to join?

You are welcome to attend a couple of rehearsals for free and can borrow music until you formally join. The Annual Subscription is £144 (can be paid monthly); this covers around 30 weeks of rehearsals, with professional accompanist, as well as the costs of the putting on the concerts. (If you are under 25 membership is free.)

Where does ACS rehearse?

Rehearsals take place on Tuesday evenings from 7.30pm to 9.15pm during September to May, in Willesborough Church.

Members must attend at least 75% of rehearsals if they wish to sing in a concert. We can only give good concerts if we have good rehearsals.

Why not come along and give ACS a try?

Contact our Secretary, Virginia Brown, at secretary@ashfordchoral.org.uk
Visit our website ashfordchoral.org.uk