



## MEMBERSHIP FEES 2025 - 2026

As agreed at the AGM full fees will now be £200 for the season. There is a reduced fee of £66 for students and members in receipt of means-tested benefits. Schoolchildren (18 and under) in full time education may sing free of charge. Members joining after the January concert pay a reduced fee of £100.

All members need to be up-to-date with subscriptions before they can sing in concerts. All members need to buy or hire the relevant music.

There are three payment options

1. Bank transfer is the preferred method. Account details provided on request. Our preference is for the full fee but you can make two payments of £100 on or before November 1st and February 1st.
2. Cheque, payable to Durham Choral Society.
3. Cash (exact amount in an envelope labelled with the member's name)

### Financial Subsidy

If you find the fees difficult to manage, we want to help you to keep singing. The committee has established a restricted Subsidised Membership fund for a limited number of members. Please contact the Membership Secretary or Treasurer in the first instance. Please see below for further details.

### Donations to The Subsidised Membership Fund

Durham Choral Society will happily accept donations from members, no matter how small. Please reference 'subsidy'. Any donated funds will be ring fenced and reported in the annual accounts.

### Gift Aid

Gift Aid adds 25% to the membership fee paid and represents significant additional income for the Society. To pay gift aid you must be a UK taxpayer. Existing members should contact the Membership Secretary if they cease to be a taxpayer.

## **SUBSIDISED MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

Durham Choral Society recognises that certain groups or individuals who enjoy singing may be unable to pay the suggested annual membership fee.

Schoolchildren up to and including their final year of education (aged 18) may sing with us free of charge.

Students and members in receipt of a means-tested benefit can pay a reduced subscription as specified at the relevant AGM when the subscription is agreed. In 2025-6 this will be £66 for the year.

Other members: If you are finding it difficult to pay the full fee please contact the Membership Secretary or the Treasurer to discuss a possible reduction. You will be expected to pay a minimum of £66 in 2025-6 and to buy or hire your own music.

Please contact the Membership Secretary, Liz Payne, or the Treasurer, Clare Mathewson, either at a rehearsal or at [commiteedcs@gmail.com](mailto:commiteedcs@gmail.com). Any information you provide will be handled sensitively and in line with our data handling policy which can be found on the website.

We will let you know the outcome of your application before the first membership payment is due.