

Information for New or Prospective Members



Harborne Orchestra

Welcome to Harborne Orchestra

Aim

We are an independent, amateur, community orchestra. Our aims are to learn, practise, rehearse and perform music together for occasional performance with the emphasis on enjoyment for players and audience alike.

Membership is at the discretion of the Committee and Conductor.

Members need to complete a membership form, pay the required subscription, be willing to abide by the decisions of the Conductor and Committee, and abide by the member responsibilities set out in the Constitution.

Membership is generally open to those aged 16 and over. On exception members may be below 16 but they must be accompanied at all times by a suitable adult who is aged 18 or over.

Prospective members

We have no formal auditions and we suggest that potential new members come along to try us out for up to six weeks. If, at the end of that time you wish to join, we think you are suitable and we have a vacancy for your instrument, we will invite you to commit to membership. Subscription is then payable, currently £55 per term, due in full within three weeks of the start of each term. For new members the first term which includes the trial period, will be £25.

Members are responsible for attending rehearsals regularly; practicing music where required; looking after music in their possession which either belongs, or is on loan, to Harborne Orchestra, and returning it to the Librarian when requested; being available for concerts and adhering to the required dress code; and being respectful to the conductor and other members of Harborne Orchestra

Members knowing in advance that they will miss a rehearsal, should inform the Secretary whenever possible.

Committee

Chair: Jill Jack

Secretary: Clare McNally

Librarian: Jo Lockett

Treasurer: Beverley Cooper

IT Manager: Michael Osborne

Conductor: John Meadows (*ex officio*)

The Committee is responsible for the day-to-day running and management of the Orchestra's affairs. It meets at least once a term. If you have any comments or suggestions please speak to any member of the Committee.

Rehearsals take place at Queen Alexandra College, on Fridays promptly at 7.30pm to 9.15pm.

Queen Alexandra College
Court Oak Road, Harborne,
Birmingham, B17 9TG

There is a short break for tea/coffee and biscuits on an honesty basis. To minimise use of resources members are asked to bring their own cups/mugs.

Concerts

The orchestra usually performs two or three concerts a year but additional concerts may be arranged from time to time e.g. for charitable purpose.

Subscription is £55.00 per term payable in full within three weeks of adoption at the Annual General Meeting, and thereafter within three weeks from the beginning of each term. Anyone who experiences any difficulty with subscriptions should speak in confidence to the Treasurer.

In their first term new members pay £25.

Music

Sometimes music may be borrowed or hired from other orchestras or libraries for which a deposit may be required. The cost of any overdue music or replacements for losses or damage will be charged to the individuals to whom it was issued.

“Tutti” is an occasional newsletter to keep members informed about Committee decisions and concert dates, and to provide a vehicle for floating ideas for future developments. The Committee welcomes feedback at any time about matters in the newsletter or, indeed, any comments or suggestions.

Concert Dress

The dress code for formal concerts is:

Ladies – white top, black skirt or trousers, black shoes.

Men – black dinner suit if possible, or dark lounge suit or dark jacket and dark trousers.

White shirt, black bow tie, black shoes.

Or often a block coloured top or shirt.

Concert dress may be varied by the Committee for less formal or special occasions.

Insurance

The Society is insured for Public Liability and Contents but there is no personal accident or instrument insurance.

Constitution, Policies and procedures

General purpose Risk Assessments have been undertaken. Policies are in place for Safeguarding and Data Protection. The Committee reviews and updates these as necessary. Copies of these and of the Orchestra’s Constitution will be provided to new members and will subsequently be available to anyone on the website at <http://www.harborneorchestra.com>

Annual General Meeting

The AGM is normally held in September following a shortened rehearsal. At the AGM subscriptions are set and Committee members elected as necessary.

If you have any queries please contact the Secretary, Clare McNally, by email at orchestraharborne@gmail.com

Or by ‘phone on 07769 842416.