

# Barts Choir

## Patrons Scheme

### Patrons Scheme

The Trustees have decided to establish a Patrons Scheme to give Choir members and other supporters the opportunity to donate to the Choir on a structured and regular basis. This means the Trustees will be able to budget and plan with more certainty, and allow the Choir to continue to put on our concerts in the most exciting venues.

The Patrons Scheme is in addition to, and not a substitute for, the usual termly subscriptions.

### Putting on great concerts

As you may know, Barts Choir is a charity that relies entirely on its singers and supporters for funding.

One of our principal attractions to amateur singers is that we are able to put on concerts in prestigious London venues (e.g. the Royal Albert Hall and the Royal Festival Hall) with celebrated and professional orchestras (e.g. the Royal Philharmonic and Philharmonia Orchestras).

These concerts, however, are put on entirely at Barts' own risk – we have to commit to the costs of the venue and the orchestra, as well as all the attendant costs (staging, programmes, etc), before we have sold a single ticket. These costs amount to tens of thousands of pounds. We can only contemplate such ambitious programmes if the Trustees continue to feel that the Choir is in a financially secure position.

### Where does our money come from?

All the Choir's activities come under the following headings:

- “everyday business” – rehearsals and ongoing operations like insurance, the website etc.
- concerts.

Our **everyday business** is funded by choir members' subscriptions<sup>1</sup> which pay for Ivor's, Jordan's and Chris's weekly fees, as well as the hire of rehearsal space and other ongoing costs like insurance. We usually make a respectable surplus on this area, but that amount depends of course on the number of individuals singing each term.

**Concerts** are funded by ticket sales. As noted above, we have to pay for the venue and the musicians regardless of how much money we make on the tickets. Ticket income typically does not cover the costs of our concerts.

The Trustees work hard to keep costs down, and much of the work of the Choir is undertaken by volunteers. The surplus on the everyday business subsidises concert expenditure but, in the years where this surplus does not cover the year's concert deficits, we have to use some of our financial reserves (i.e. the surpluses built up from previous periods).

The Patrons Scheme will help the Trustees to meet their objective of keeping the safety net of our reserves at a level that allows us to continue to take the risk of holding concerts in the more prestigious and expensive concert halls.

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<sup>1</sup> Singing with Barts is great value - members' costs for rehearsals work out at less than £3 per hour

## Patron levels

There are four levels of giving, with varying benefits:

Levels	Fortissimo	Forte	Mezzo forte	Piano
Contribution	£30 per month = £360pa	£20 per month = £240pa	£10 per month = £120pa	£5 per month = £60pa
<b>Benefits</b>				
Ticket concessions	£2 off 6 tickets per concert*	£2 off 4 tickets per concert*	£2 off 2 tickets per concert*	-
Free programmes	3 free programmes per concert*	2 free programmes per concert*	1 free programme per concert*	-
Name in concert programme	Yes, if desired	Yes, if desired	Asterisk name if singing, if desired	Asterisk name if singing, if desired

*\*Two performances of the same pieces count as one concert, for these purposes*

Please note that, with these benefits, no Gift Aid is claimable on your donations. If you would like to forego the benefits – apart from being identified in the concert programme, should you so wish – please indicate this in the attached form.

## If you would like to become a Patron

Please complete the form opposite.

You will see that we are asking for a monthly Standing Order, which is easily done on your phone/ iPad/laptop etc. (If you are not able to use an electronic device, you will need to call into the bank bringing documentation to confirm who you are and your bank account details (passport, driving licence, bank statements, bank card) and complete a form with the cashier at the branch.)

You have the choice of limiting the standing order to a fixed end date or making an open-ended commitment (“until further notice”). Whichever you choose, you can stop the standing order at any time. You can also reduce your commitment or increase it at any time.

**Thank you so much for your support!**

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Barts Choir, whose formal name is St Bartholomew’s Hospital Choral Society, is a charitable incorporated organisation, registered with the Charity Commission with the number 1197538.

## Barts Choir Patrons Scheme – Standing Order

<b>Name</b>	
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<b>Address</b>		<b>Postcode</b>
<b>Email address</b>		

Please tick the desired level of giving								
<b>Patrons Scheme level</b>	<b>Fortissimo</b> £30 per month	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Forte</b> £20 per month	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Mezzo forte</b> £10 per month	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Piano</b> £5 per month	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
I would like to forego the benefits (except my name in the programme as indicated below) and allow Barts Choir to claim Gift Aid on my donations – please see declaration overleaf*								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>


<b>Barts Choir bank details</b>	Please set the reference as “[Your surname] – Patron” Account name: St Bartholomew’s Hospital Choral Society Bank: CAF Bank Ltd Sort code: 40 52 40 Account number: 00096760
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<b>Confirm Standing Order established</b>  <i>Please note Gift Aid does not apply to these payments unless you have opted to forego benefits – confirmed above</i>	I have set up a Standing Order in favour of St Bartholomew’s Hospital Choral Society (“Barts Choir”)	
	<b>Date of first payment</b>	DD/MM/YYYY
	<b>Projected finish date or until further notice</b>	DD/MM/YYYY (at least three years hence or, failing that, a year)
	<b>Payment frequency</b> – monthly/other (please say)	

Please confirm if you are happy for your name, as Patron, to be in the relevant concert programme				
Levels	Fortissimo	Forte	Mezzo forte	Piano
Name in programme	Yes, if desired	Yes, if desired	Asterisk name if singing, if desired	Asterisk name if singing, if desired
Confirm	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	Y/N

Please turn over the page...

## Barts Choir Patrons Scheme – Standing Order *continued*

<b>*Gift Aid it</b> (if you have ticked the foregone benefits box overleaf)	
I am a UK taxpayer and I understand that if I pay less Income and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in the relevant tax year, it is my responsibility to pay any difference. The Gift Aid claimed will be used to fund the whole of Barts Choir's work	
<b>Confirmed</b>	
<b>Signed</b>	<b>Dated</b>

*Please return your completed form to Penny Andrews, Trustee, at any rehearsal, or scan and send to [patrons@bartschoir.com](mailto:patrons@bartschoir.com). If you have any questions, including on how to set up an SO on your mobile, please ask Penny.*

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