

Subscription Rates 2020-21

As approved at the AGM on 7th September, the subscription rates for the 2020-21 season are as below.

Wimbledon Choral Society operates a full season subscription policy. Some other choirs run on a concert-by-concert or term-by-term basis – we do not. Existing members returning at the start of a new season or part-way through it will still be required to pay the whole season's rate even if later they decide to leave part-way through that season. New members joining later in a season will be asked to pay an amount proportional to the remaining length of the season once they have had their audition and been accepted as a member. Details of this latter case can be obtained from John Gale (treasurer@wimbledon-choral.org.uk).

Following the severe disruption to the end of the 2019-20 season and the start of this one, 2020-21, there is a temporary change to the rates and options available.

Member Type	Minimum Rate	Full Rate
• Full Membership	£70	£150
• Reduced Rate – Registered Unemployed	£30	£70
• Reduced Rate – Aged 25 or Under	£30	£70
• Reduced Rate – Full-time Student	£10	£25

Whereas the subscription rates applicable in normal circumstances would be those shown in the Full Rate column, members are being offered the rates listed in the Minimum Rate column with the option of paying an amount anywhere in between (and including) the Minimum and Full Rates, entirely at their discretion. Payment of the Minimum Rate is perfectly acceptable.

In light of the current circumstances, we would ask that the subscription payment is made via bank transfer.

Bank=Santander Sort Code=090151 Account=27249400 Reference=SUB + initial & surname.

Please ensure you do use the Reference field as some members have accounts that are not in their own name and it can be a real challenge to reconcile payments with no reference. Please also check that you use only the Santander account shown here as the old Barclays account (20-57-76) is no longer active.

If you need to pay by cheque, please send it to: John Gale, 415 Hillcross Avenue, Morden, SM4 4BZ

Normally, all subs MUST be paid before the date of the member's first concert of that season, typically early November. In the current circumstances can we please request that members pay their subs no later than Monday 30th November.



All members are encouraged to sign up for Gift Aid with the choir. The only requirement is that you pay sufficient income and/or capital gains tax to HM Revenue & Customs at some point during the year to cover the Gift Aid recovered by WCS. Most people will do so anyway if they are in full or part-time employment, have savings with banks, building societies or other financial institutions [the exception being ISAs as these are tax-free], have investments that generate income, or are drawing a pension.

Remember that Gift Aid costs *you* absolutely nothing but the choir gains a significant amount from it. The choir's Gift Aid Administrator can be contacted on giftaid@wimbledon-choral.org.uk for more information and to obtain a form to be completed for Gift Aid claims with HMRC. Alternatively see the *Members* or *Gift Aid* pages on the website from where the form can also be downloaded.

WCS handles all the administration for Gift Aid for you. However, if you are a higher-rate tax payer and you complete an annual self-assessment tax return then you, too, may gain some additional tax relief by declaring your WCS subscription in the section about one-off Gift Aid payments under Charitable Giving.

The rules and conditions under which Gift Aid relief can be claimed mean that the value you can declare on your tax return is not necessarily the whole amount listed above, and a small element has to be deducted. Wimbledon Choral Society has a Gift Aid policy (agreed and approved by the Trustees and the full WCS committee) that defines how this element is defined. Unless or until otherwise advised, the amount of deduction for the purposes of claiming Gift Aid is £5, irrespective of the rate paid.