



Member Information 2020

Welcome to Vox Harmony - City of Launceston Choir

Below are things you need to know – please read carefully, even if you are a returning member as there may have been changes since last year.

VOICE RANGE TESTING

Denise will be asking each member to undergo a voice testing exercise. This is an opportunity for each singer to know what their vocal range is and to be sure about which section of the choir they should be singing in to get the most out of their voice and to ensure the safety of their voice. It is a simple 5-minute exercise for all members. As a result you may be asked to sing in a different section from that which you believe you belong or have traditionally sung. Voice range tests will take place during the first and second rehearsals.

REHEARSALS

We rehearse on Tuesday nights, in the Music Department at Newstead College, Cypress Street, Newstead, from 7 pm - 8.30 pm. Rehearsals will be held every school week, from **4 February** up to and including **1 December**.

2020 Membership covers the period 4 February 2020 to 26 January 2021 (Australia Day). There will be no choir in the school holidays, except Easter Tuesday.

From time to time, there may be occasional extra or extra long rehearsals during the lead-up to performances. For most songs, we make voice part recordings available on our web site so you can listen to and practise your part in between rehearsals.

TERM DATES

We follow the school holiday calendar and therefore rehearsals will not take place in school holidays, unless otherwise indicated.

ATTENDANCE

Please attend as many rehearsals as possible and tick your name on the attendance sheet when you arrive at rehearsals. If you are going to be away for more than two consecutive rehearsals, please indicate this in advance on the attendance sheet or email us so we know you haven't deserted us!

If you have been absent from choir for more than two consecutive rehearsals and we haven't heard from you, we may contact you asking for an indication of when you will be back. If you decide to leave the choir for any reason during the year, please advise our Musical Director, Denise, or a committee member.

Upon leaving the choir within the first three weeks of the year, a full membership refund will be given.

After the first three weeks, we will refund \$100 in the first term on return of music and shirt/scarf.

After the first term a refund of \$30 on return of music, shirt and scarf for the remainder of the year.

COMMITMENT

Although we are a community choir, we are also a performance choir and over the years have secured several recurring performance commitments throughout the year. There is an expectation of each member to be available and to prepare appropriately for these performances.

CITY OF LAUNCESTON CHOIR COMMITMENTS

As we are the official choir of the City of Launceston, we have committed to performing at two compulsory events during the year on **Australia Day and ANZAC Day**. It is imperative that **all choir members** attend these events.

WHAT TO BRING TO REHEARSALS

A water bottle, a pencil, and a smile.

We will supply you with your original sheet music which will have your name on it. Only one of each piece of music will be issued per member. Please look after your music carefully as these are all originals. You are responsible for replacing your music if you

lose it as we are not allowed to use photocopied music. Please note that we can only supply you with original music once full membership fees and music levy have been paid.

Name tags will be supplied. Please wear these at all rehearsals.

Traditionally we go for a drink afterwards at The Royal Oak, Brisbane Street. Join us if you can – it's a great time to socialise as we don't have a lot of time for this at rehearsal.

UNIFORM/PERFORMANCES

The Vox Harmony uniform for most of our performances is a black shirt with our choir logo. Upon becoming a member, you will be supplied with a shirt and a blue scarf for ladies and matching tie for men. We also have some accessories such as tie pins, cufflinks, earrings and necklaces.

For some performances, the official choir uniform may not be required, and we will wear a black top of any style, and black trousers or skirt and a coloured scarf/tie and accessories.

Generally we perform without music, however if music is allowed it needs to be in a black folder. Choral music folders are available for purchase at \$25 (limited numbers available).

NO-PERFUME POLICY

Please avoid wearing any perfumes at rehearsals and performances. For some it can cause quite severe migraines. We are in too close contact for those who can have quite dangerous reactions to escape the effects. Men, this is also for your consideration.

KEEPING UP TO DATE ON EVENTS AND PLANS

In addition to announcements at rehearsals, we use several methods of communication:

- **Web site** - Contains mostly information for the general public and serves to advertise our choir. The *Members Only* section on the web site contains voice part recordings for practising. You will be emailed the password to access this section at the beginning of the year.
- **Facebook** - We use our Facebook page for our photo albums, social interaction amongst members and general public, and for announcements which we would like to promote to the wider Facebook public for sharing and liking.
- **TeamApp** — If you have not already done so, please download this app to your **phone**. Create an account and search for "Vox Harmony". Request access to the Vox Harmony group. We use TeamApp extensively and primarily to communicate to our members regarding issues that do not involve the general public and are for members only.

We also maintain our Event Calendar on this app, so it is imperative that you create an account otherwise you will not be able to see information such as rehearsal changes, performance times, and other general messages which will help you stay informed of what is going on. Messaging on TeamApp is instant and is therefore a fantastic tool to keep you informed of last minute changes.

We also require you to fill in the RSVP's for all events that require you to indicate your availability on TeamApp.

CHOIR ADMINISTRATION

Vox Harmony has its own administrative committee and we hold a public liability and volunteer accident insurance via ANCA/Aon - PDS can be downloaded here: <http://anca.org.au/insurance>.

Committee member positions become available for re-election at the end of March each year.

Positions are:

President | Vice-President/Public Officer/Uniforms | Treasurer | Secretary | Online Secretary | Librarian | Musical Director | Committee Members (Social/Fundraising and general roles)

MEMBERSHIP

The next anticipated intake will not occur until **January 2021**. Potential new members need to make an application to join the choir. We cannot guarantee being able to offer a place to all new applicants or place you in the indicated voice section. If you know someone who would like to join the choir, please ask them to indicate their interest via email, so we can send them information about the application process.

VOX HARMONY CONTACT INFO

Email: info@voxharmony.org.au

Web: voxharmony.org.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VoxHarmonyChoir/>

TeamApp: <https://voxharmony.teamapp.com>

Musical Director
President

Denise Sam (0419 369 781)
Jill Forshaw (0412 062 860)