

Canton Chorus survey summer 2024

This note summarises the results of the survey of members issued just before the Summer Concert in July. The survey received an encouraging response, with 22 responses - so nearly half the active membership of the Choir.

Question 1 - Membership Fees

There was unanimous support for raising the fee to £20 per month, or £240 per year - on condition that we would retain the option of asking people to pay what they can if they cannot afford the full fee, and that nobody should be excluded from membership if they cannot afford the full fee.

Question 2 - Repertory and frequency of concerts

This elicited a range of responses, with a majority backing two concerts per year, but with an awareness that repertory needed to be tailored to resources. There were suggestions that we should aim to perform a larger work with orchestra every two years.

Some members were concerned that some very demanding repertory (e.g. the Mozart Vespers) was leaving members disillusioned and lacking in confidence, but equally there was a strong sense that it was important to stick to classical repertory and not go down the path towards more popular works - not least because there were plenty of other choirs in the Cardiff area who offered that kind of repertory.

The point was made that in the past the Choir's publicity material had stated that there was no requirement to read music, but that our repertory did demand a basic level of musical literacy.

It was suggested by some members that the Choir could seek to do more community-based events, e.g. singing at shopping centres around Christmas. The question of collaborating with other choirs was also raised.

Some members suggested more works by Welsh composers, and women composers.

Question 3 - Fundraising and membership recruitment

There was support across the board for Come and Sing events. There was also support for recruiting "angel" donors, and support for seeking sponsorship/donations from local businesses.

A number of members suggested scrapping the weekly raffle, and instead holding a larger raffle with better prizes at Choir social events.

Question 4 - Other suggestions

There was some support for an earlier start time and finish.