

About us:

Rising Voices Wessex aims to link music and health together. Anyone who has experience of cancer, either personally or who has supported a loved one or friend can join us at our Poole choir. We like to have fun and enjoy each other's company, learn new songs and remember old favourites. No audition, no need to read music!

The Poole Choir:

Musical Director - Wendy Morrow, a professional music teacher, performer of folk and world music and also a music therapy practitioner. Wendy is a talented musician and plays harp, flute, piano and guitar and also has other choirs.

Musical Co-director - Mark Anstead, a professional musician who is accomplished at playing and teaching, violin and piano. Mark is also the Musical Director for St Wilfrids Choir in Chichester. Mark joined the choir in various roles when it was launched in 2013.

Contact us:

email admin@risingvoices.org.uk

See our website at www.risingvoices.org.uk

Join us on Twitter @risingvoiceswex

Join us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/RisingVoicesChoir>

Or Phone/text or leave a message on 07500 676083

Poole choir-Tuesday 6.45- 9pm St John's Church, Parkstone, BH14 0AA

NY 2026 Rising Voices Wessex community choirs is a registered charity number 1165053



Events and Performances



Showcasing our work

Information for members - Events/performances:

Throughout the year Rising Voices Wessex take part in events – both formal and informal. These are optional and members who wish to sing at an event **should** sign up. “Sign-up sheets” for events will be available on rehearsal nights.

If you have signed up and are unable to attend an event please take your name off the sign-up sheet or email admin or text our phone. This is especially important for events where food has been ordered.

To make sure we have a good standard of performance at events

Members will need to have attended *a minimum of 3 rehearsals* including the final pre-performance rehearsal. On the day of the event you will need to arrive in time for the pre-performance warm-up.

Good stage discipline is expected at performances. Proceed on and off stage in silence in the order of the stage plan - the final decision as to where you stand will be determined by the Musical Director based on choir balance and sight lines. During a performance, please hold your folders with the black side out – don’t fold them over and please turn the pages quietly - no talking.

Solos: Solos are agreed based on suitability of a voice for a given song/verse/line in a song and availability to rehearse with the choir. The soloists will have clarity, reliability of pitch and the ability to project the voice to deliver in a consistent tone, so that the audience can hear the solo. Soloists should be able to commit time to practice.

Some voices are more powerful than others – in a choir the blend of voices is critical – so no individual voice should stand out in a song (unless it is a solo!). For this reason, you may be asked to sing quietly or not sing in a particular song or part of the song by the Musical Director.

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The dress code for events and performances:

Daytime and informal events – White Rising Voices Wessex polo shirts with black skirt or black trousers, black shoes and Rising Voices Wessex fleeces. Sometimes we may use waterfall cardigans or blue scarves for ladies, dependent on the weather.

Evening and formal events – Black evening dress, black skirt or trousers with a black top, and waterfall cardigan (or blue scarf) for the ladies. Black shirt and trousers for the men and blue tie. Black shoes.

Details of the dress code will be on the sign-up sheet for each event.

We try to keep the cost of our branded items down. If you are not sure about buying our branded clothing, we have some preloved items. Also available to buy are black folders for lyrics, pin badges and bags. If you have a branded polo shirt or fleece you no longer require, please return them; spares are always useful.

Health and Safety: Some members are allergic to hairsprays and perfume please be aware of this and use sparingly.

We make every attempt to ensure your safety at events, however, please be aware that there may be steps or staging and cables around.

You should not use the staging if steps are a problem for you. Please inform us if you need help with any steps or a chair for the performance.

Any trips or falls must be recorded in the Accident Book.

Please Note: there will be photos and filming during events. If you do not want your photo taken please inform the photographers.