

Welcome to Vox Holloway

Membership information pack



Contents

So you have decided to join Vox Holloway. A big warm welcome to you!

Here is a pack with all of the key information about the choir to get you started.

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About us

Vox Holloway (Latin — “the voice of Holloway”) is a community choir open to all:

there are no auditions and members do not need to have experience of choral singing, read music, belong to any particular faith, or live in any particular postcode. We sing an eclectic mix of music, led by our Musical Director, Harvey Brough. Many pieces are Harvey’s original compositions or arrangements - ranging from classical to jazz, pop, folk, blues and gospel. We’ve performed with world-class musicians in venues including Hackney Empire and Alexandra Palace Theatre. We work with professional composers, singers and musicians to commission and perform new work. We’re ambitious and dynamic, but most of all, we’re a friendly group who like to have fun!

The choir was founded in 2009 by Justin Butcher - actor, writer, director and musician and Director of Music at St Luke’s Church, West Holloway, where we are based. Justin has written the libretto for many of Harvey’s compositions, including *Freedom Song* and *The Sun Does Shine*, and is a strong supporter of Vox.

We are a registered charity and operate without grants or sponsorship for the majority of our projects.

We are funded by member subscriptions and we depend on these, alongside ticket sales, to pay the professional musicians who perform with us in our concerts. To support us, we encourage choir members to promote our concerts and bring in an audience.

St Luke’s in West Holloway is our ‘home’ and the location of all of our rehearsals.

We are very grateful for the support provided by St Luke’s in order to hold our rehearsals there each week, alongside a number of our performances.

Our vision

“Vox is a dynamic, community choir under the artistic direction of Harvey Brough. It brings together amateur and professional musicians to create beautiful, diverse and original music that can uplift and inspire people. It also raises awareness of social issues by taking relevant music into the heart of communities and by supporting other charitable causes.”

Our values

Inclusive: Open to anyone who loves to sing; welcoming and supportive; rooted in our diverse community; accessible financially and culturally

Excellent: Ambitious in terms of our repertoire and our performances; committed to constantly improving and aiming for the highest standards

Relevant: Seeking to connect the arts with current issues around social justice; raising awareness and inspiring people; supporting other charities; singing for a purpose as well as for fun

Collaborative: Working with internationally acclaimed artists; partnering with other choirs and with relevant charities

Dynamic: Innovative and risk-taking; outward looking; keen to explore new opportunities, to listen and to learn.

Members

Our members are largely based in Holloway and the wider North London local area. As a non-audition, community choir, Vox members have a wide range of musical experience and ability – from experienced choral sight-singers, to many who have never sung in a choir or read music before.

Trustees

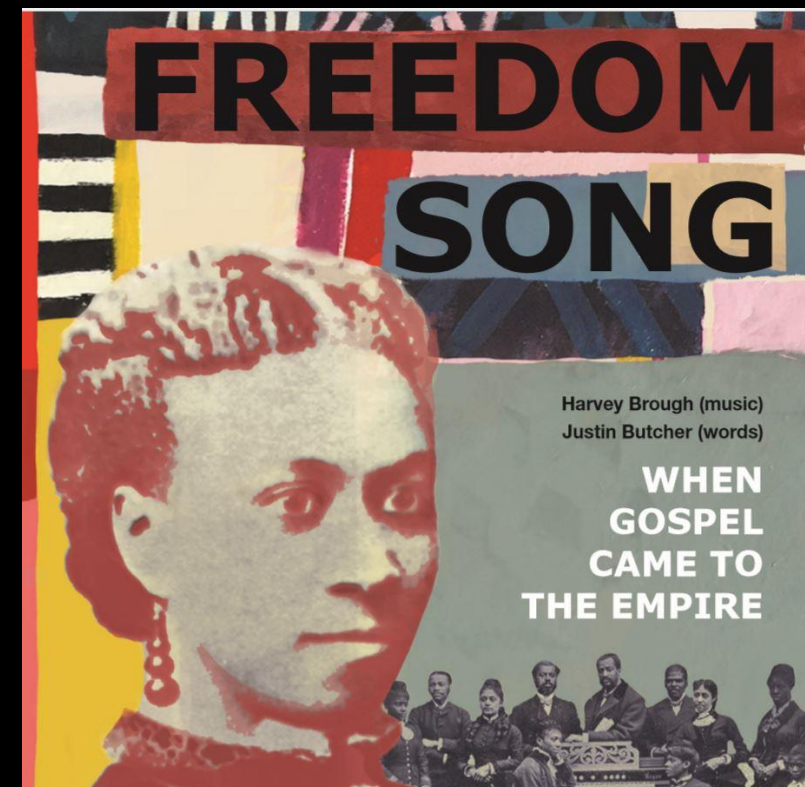
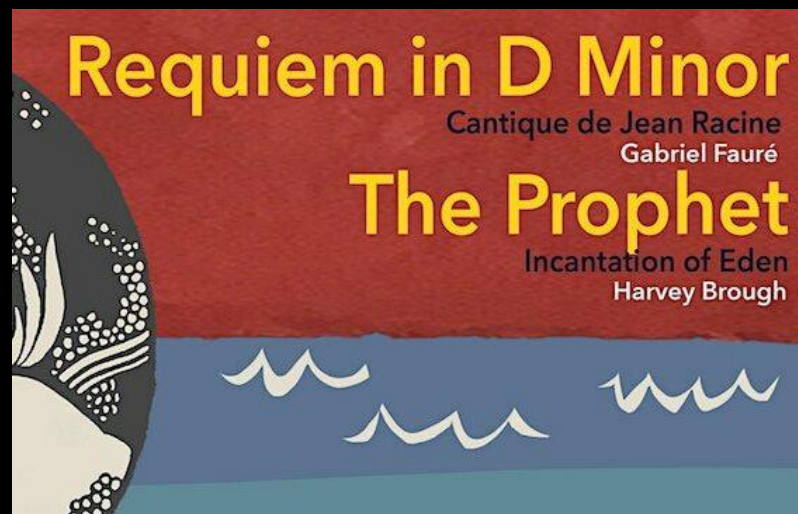
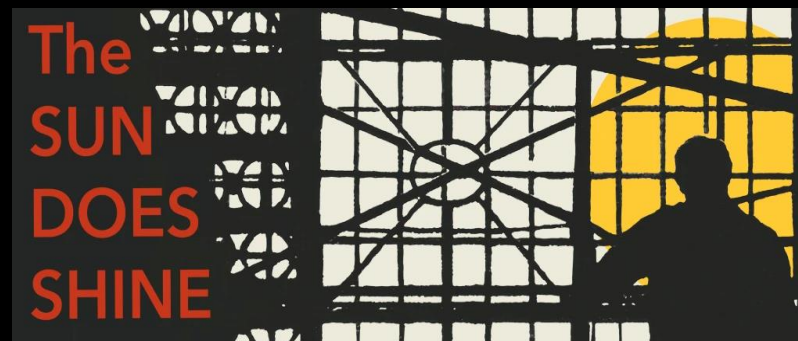
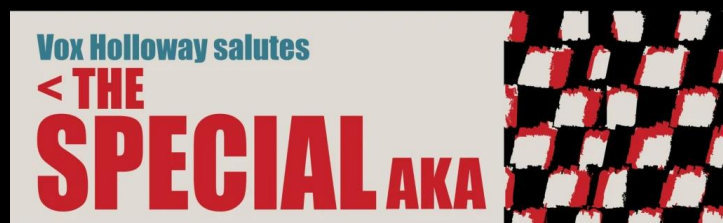
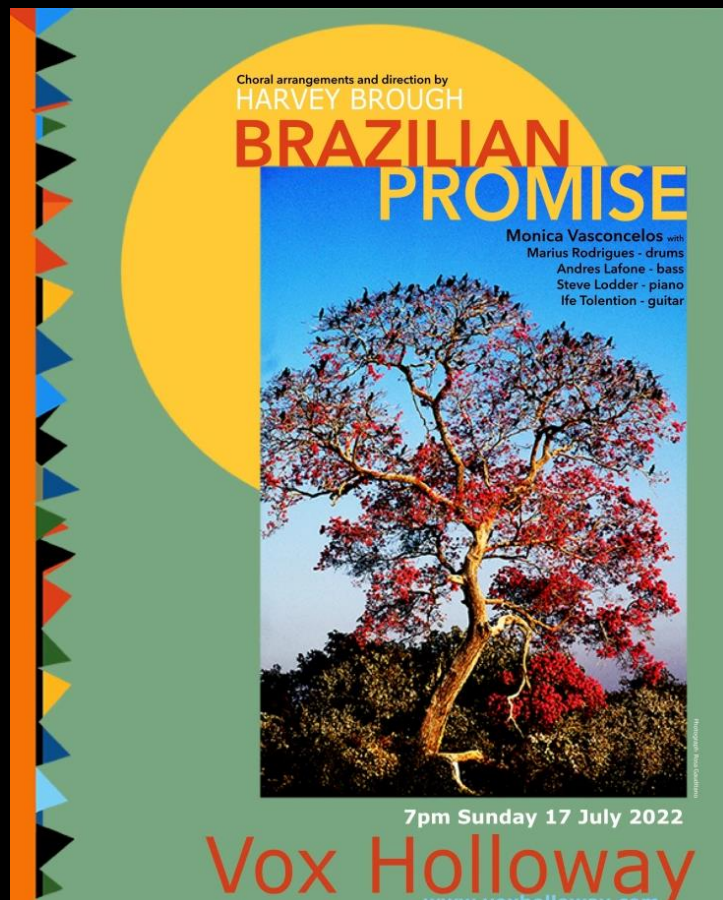
The choir is governed by the Committee, made up of a group of Trustees – Trustees can be found in the 'key contacts' section at the end of this pack.

Patrons

Harvey has selected patrons who we have the greatest admiration for, with community in their hearts - and perhaps in their work too.

Our patrons are made up of award-winning actress and writer **Emma Thompson**, presenter and housing design expert **Kevin McCloud**, as well as radio, TV, film and opera writer **Lee Hall**.

The music we sing



The music we sing

We are fortunate to have our own composer and arranger in our Musical Director **Harvey Brough**, one of the UK's most accomplished and diverse musicians.

Harvey is unique in his ability to work with the finest professional musicians and complete beginners (both children and adults), often side by side. He has been promoting Community music for many years before it became a popular movement.

Many of his compositions bring these forces together, with remarkable results. Under his leadership, Vox has worked with the Kinks' Ray Davies, The Specials' Jerry Dammers, Brazilian superstar Monica Vasconcelos, Catalan composer-singer Clara Sanabras and jazz legend Liane Carroll.

We have also performed a number of classical pieces – most recently including Faure's *Requiem in D Minor* and Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*, amongst others.



Vox membership basics



Vox membership basics

Subscription fees

Fees for the term are £75 – including rehearsals, score, audio aids and the concert. Please speak to us about a reduced rate if this would support you to join.

Vox is able to reclaim Gift Aid on your subscription and any donations you make. This is hugely valuable and is very simple for the donor. So if you are a UK tax-payer please speak to Vox Treasurer, Jon Sedgwick (email voxn7treasurer@gmail.com), who can explain how it works and obtain the small amount of additional information we need from you.

Membermojo

This is the system we use to manage membership information – and so it's important that we have up to date and accurate contact details for you. **Please click on the 'view or change membership details' link below to review the records we hold and make sure they are correct and complete**, in particular that you have advised us of which voice part you sing (alto, soprano, bass, tenor – and if you aren't sure, we can support you with discovering this). This is really important as it affects the seating plans for concerts.

Please also check we have a telephone number for you and details of someone we can contact in an emergency. We always hope it won't happen but we do need to know who to call if something happens - or if you leave your phone behind at a rehearsal.

Vox membership basics

Accessibility and inclusion

Vox is open to everyone. If you have access or any other needs, please let us know via Membermojo, or speak to one of the Committee members and we will ensure you have the right support in place at rehearsals and concerts (e.g. large print scores, seats at the front/end of a row etc).

Communications and promotion

Sign up to email lists: Please make sure you are signed up to our general email list, so you can receive more general information about Vox Holloway. By signing up and paying for the term's membership you will only receive emails for people who have paid to sing this term - you will NOT receive more general emails about the choir, concert marketing etc. To make sure are on our general mailing list, [please sign up here](#).

Follow us on social media

Stay up to date with us on social media – and re-share our posts to spread the word!



Instagram:
@voxholloway



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



Bluesky:
@voxholloway

Our rehearsals



Our rehearsals

Logistics

Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings at St Luke's, Hillmarton Road, Holloway, N7 9JE.

All rehearsals begin at 7.30pm and end at 9.30pm with a tea/wine break in the middle.

Audio aids

We rehearse with printed scores, plus access to real voice audio aids recorded by Harvey. These are available on our website, with the link circulated to members each term. We ask that choir members work hard to learn the music to make best use of rehearsals.

Your buddy

To help you get settled in, you'll be given a supportive buddy within your voice section. They're there to make sure you feel supported, answer any questions and introduce you to lots of our friendly singers!

Our concerts



Our concerts

Frequency

We have three terms per year, corresponding to the school terms. Our performances consist of one, or sometimes two, concerts per term.

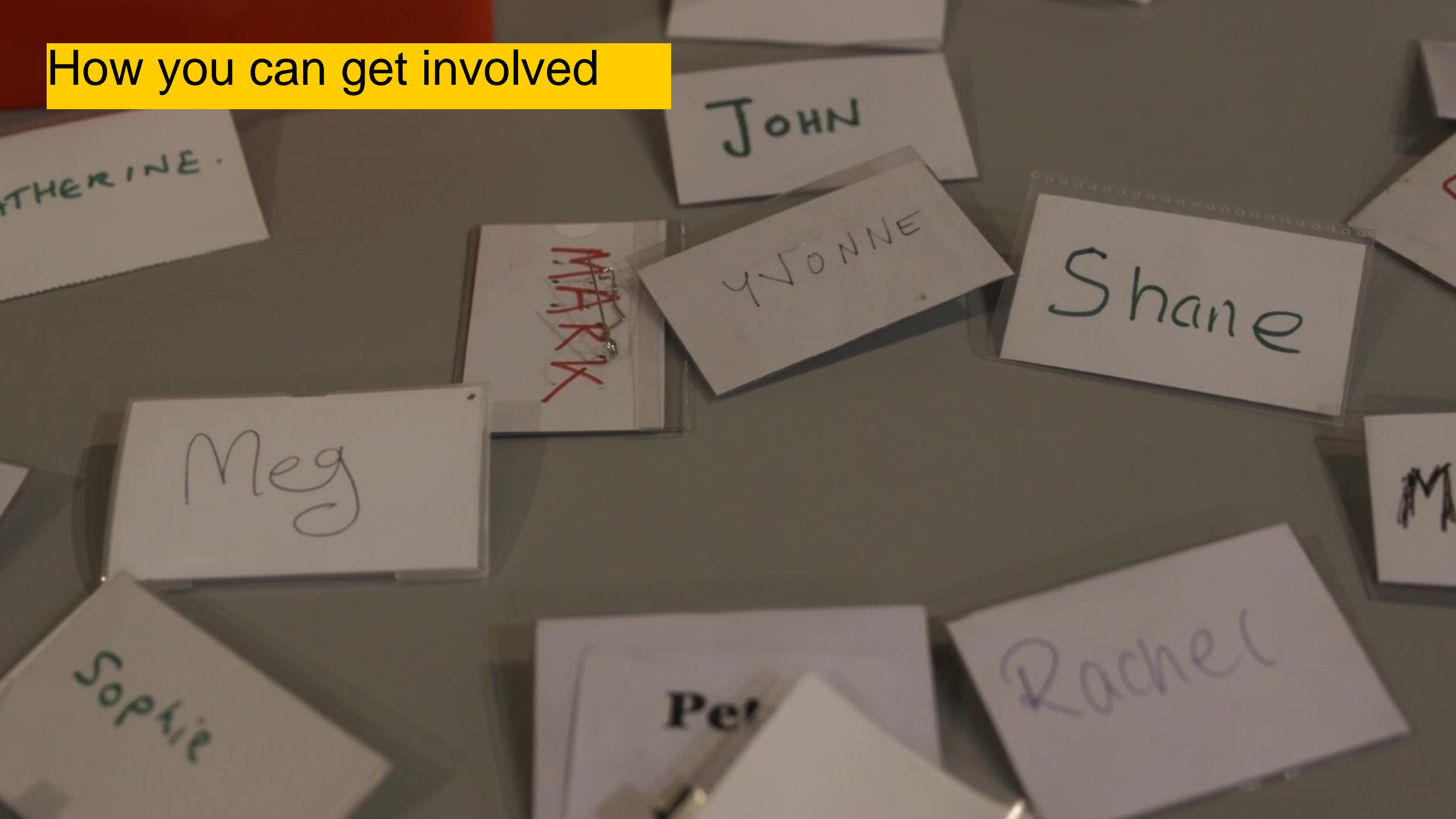
Venues

Our concerts either take place at St Luke's West Holloway, our 'home' where we rehearse, or once or twice a year we perform in another venue. Recently we have performed at Hackney Empire, Alexandra Palace Theatre and Sinfonia Smith Square.

Concert day

On the day of the concert, we normally have a full rehearsal with band and soloists. We'll communicate the timings and logistics of this well in advance.

How you can get involved



How you can get involved

Member commitments

By becoming a member and getting involved with the range of opportunities that Vox Holloway offers, we ask singers to commit to a set of basic principles, linked to Vox's values and vision.

1. **Come along to rehearsals consistently:** We all work towards the concert together as a group. Regular attendance not only supports you with picking up the musical material faster and to a higher standard, but supports all of the singers around you and means we can perform to the highest standard.
2. **Sing as one:** Being part of a choir involves listening to those around you and blending voices together to create one cohesive sound – no voice should be heard loudly above all others!
3. **Offer a helping hand:** Whether it's signing up to the tea rota, offering your skillset to support the committee's activities, or spreading the word about our concerts – we rely on support from members in everything we do. We're looking forward to seeing what you can bring to help achieve our vision and ambition!

Key contacts



Key contacts

Questions?

Vox email address (for general queries): voxhollowayn7@gmail.com

Vox Holloway Committee

These friendly faces will be able to help.

- Tricia Zipfel, Chair
 - Jon Sedgwick, Treasurer
 - Sheena Cruse, Secretary
 - Caroline Millar, Membership Operations
 - Polly Barker, Member Communications
 - Josh Winfield, Legal
 - Lucy Watson, Promotion and Marketing
 - Ellie Whittaker, Information Management
-
- Harvey Brough, Musical Director



See you soon!

