

Join us today! Either fill in this form or join online at www.abcd.org.uk

Application form

Annual subscriptions to 1 May 2019. Please enrol me/us as:

- Individual Member (£70)
- Joint Members (two people at same address) (£103)
- Young Conductor Member (under 28) DOB / /
(under 25 up to two years free of charge, thereafter 10% of sub until you are 26, then 20% of sub until you turn 28)

Partial rates apply at different times of the year; please see the membership pages of our website for details and for details of Corporate, Associate and our Music Education memberships.

Or:

Please debit my Mastercard/Visa Credit/Visa Debit Card No.

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Start date Expiry date Security no. on back of card

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Name as on card:

Cardholder's signature:

Date:

On receiving your application, the Membership Secretary will send you a direct debit mandate for future subscriptions.

Title Forename Surname

2nd name (joint members only)

Title Forename Surname

Address

Postcode

Phone

Email

Please send your form to:

Carol Bowns, **abcd** Membership Secretary,
6 Serpentine Court, 51 St John's Road,
Buxton SK17 6 XA

“As a choral conductor, you can't make it on your own. To do your best work you need to meet others, exchange ideas, listen and learn. In the UK there is no better forum for doing this than **abcd**.”



I encourage every choral conductor, whether relative novice or experienced professional, to join and reap the benefit. **abcd** offers something for everyone. I've never attended an **abcd** event and not come away enriched and inspired.

John Rutter, *abcd* Vice-President

What members say . . .

'I have learnt more in one weekend I could have in a month!'
(Young conductor)

'I found the whole thing so enormously informative ... A wonderful opportunity for choir directors, singers, composers and publishers to meet together.'
(Convention Delegate)

'Being on this course has been an absolute privilege – thank you. I feel much more confident in my own abilities now and have even started a community choir.' (Primary Teacher)

'It was amazing to work with Bob Chilcott and sing in such a large choir.' (Regional Delegate)

To find out more about us, visit our website www.abcd.org.uk or contact: Rachel Greaves, General Secretary
Tel. 01935 389482 Email: rachel.greaves@abcd.org.uk

For membership enquiries, contact:
Carol Bowns, Membership Secretary
Tel. 01298 213577 Email: carol.bowns@abcd.org.uk

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Photo acknowledgements: Photos on front cover from top to bottom: Amy Bebbington, Midlands Singing Day in Birmingham Town Hall, Ben Parry
Inside right: Conducting workshop, Newcastle.
(Photo: Jack Flynn)



ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH CHORAL DIRECTORS

A UNIQUE ORGANISATION WHICH EXISTS ENTIRELY TO SUPPORT ALL CHORAL LEADERS.



See inside for more details on

- TRAINING
- NETWORKING
- EVENTS
- WORKING WITH LEADING CHORAL CONDUCTORS





About *abcd*

Every choir aspires to make music to the highest standard they can. To achieve this, they deserve a leader who has the benefit of the skills, knowledge, training and connections that only *abcd* can offer.

Across Britain, *abcd* members lead singing of all types – from cathedrals to nursery schools, choral societies to chamber choirs, in churches, community centres and concert halls. Membership can transform an isolated role into a supported and celebrated position, bringing you to a hub of activity and discussion.

abcd is the natural home for people who are passionate about choral music. Our members are at the heart of an amazing community, where composers, conductors, performers and publishers from every part of the choral world meet. Whatever your experience, *abcd* can help you to the next level.

Why join *abcd*?

Networking

Through *abcd*, you will meet other choral directors, leading practitioners and composers, all keen to share their knowledge and experience. On joining you will receive contact details of other members in your area. Our regional representatives will keep you in touch with local activity.



Website

Access *The Podium*, the members' area of the *abcd* website, a rich gathering point for reviews, a Forum to exchange news and views, an online directory of members and helpful articles on many useful topics.

Journals

All members receive access to the exclusive *abcd* digital edition of *Choir and Organ* 6 times per year. A discounted subscription to the printed edition is also available to members. If you are without internet access you will receive the *abcd* specific news pages by post. Members can also access *Mastersinger online*, an exclusive library of articles covering repertoire, choir and composer profiles, technique and more.

Events

abcd works closely with the leading composers and conductors, and has close links with many publishers. Our ten regions organise a wide variety of events throughout the year, including repertoire and singing days, composer workshops, vocal health seminars and conducting days.

Advice and support

This is available at any time from our national officers and local regional teams. We also operate mentoring and apprenticeship schemes, and provide additional help through online resources and forums.

Member rates

Members enjoy reduced rates for all *abcd* events and courses and a number of events run by our partner organisations. If you mention your *abcd* membership when ordering 10 or more copies of any OUP choral title by phone on 01536 452630, you will receive 15% discount.



Training

abcd's choral conducting courses are designed to develop the individual. Experienced tutors work with your natural abilities and previous experience to enable you to develop your own gesture vocabulary and rehearsal technique. Training takes place in a supportive and encouraging environment. This individually tailored approach develops confidence and practical skills which can be used by those leading singing of any kind.

Extended Conducting Courses run over several months and are taught at Foundation, Initial and Intermediate Level. There is a Young Conductors programme for those aged 18-25 years. We also offer specialist days on subjects of interest to choir leaders such as orchestral conducting with choirs and vocal health.

Annual Convention

This is the highlight of the *abcd* calendar and a unique opportunity to meet leading composers, conductors and vocal experts. Sessions cover everything from starting a community choir to the latest thinking in voice production. Top international choirs share their expertise in open rehearsals and take part in our spectacular gala concert. An extensive trade exhibition is open throughout the weekend attended by all the main suppliers to the British choral industry including publishers, tour operators and agents covering every possible type of singing group from a small children's choir to a gospel group, cathedral choir or choral society.