

## A Choir

There are many types of choir – gospel, rock, classical, traditional, pop, jazz and many more – there's something for everyone! Recently new choirs have been springing up all over the UK, with people setting up groups in their communities and workplaces. Singing is great fun and singing with other people even more so. Have you always wanted to sing in a choir but not found the right one for you? Why not start up your own?

## Would you like to set up your own choir?

We have created guides on how to set up your own choir and get your friends, community or colleagues singing along with you.

## What type of choir do you want to establish?

Consider where you would like to set up your choir. Do you want to create a work place choir only open to your colleagues, a community choir that's open to everyone or a closed membership choir with a group of friends?

## What are the aims of the choir?

What type of performances do you want to do? Choirs often perform at community events, festivals, put on their own concerts or act as a support for other bands. Some even have the opportunity to do session work!

## Benefits of singing in a choir

There are many benefits to singing in a choir:

-  It creates a sense of community
-  It boosts your immunity
-  It helps alleviate stress
-  It improves your breathing
-  ... and it's fun

## Internet Resources

### Music Making

Making Music thrives on encouraging all kinds of music groups and individuals to be part of a vibrant multi-cultural music scene.

[www.makingmusic.org.uk](http://www.makingmusic.org.uk)

### National Youth Choir of Scotland

The National Youth Choir of Scotland was established in 1996 to provide opportunities for young people, teachers and choir directors to support and develop choral singing across Scotland.

[www.nycos.co.uk](http://www.nycos.co.uk)



### Scotland Sings

Scotland Sings is Hands Up for Trad's singing project, designed to bring new participants and audiences together through singing.

<http://projects.scottishcultureonline.com/scotlandsings/>

### Sing up

Sing Up is an award-winning, not-for-profit organisation providing the complete singing solution for schools. It provides access to the unique Song Bank, tailored resources, training and personalised support.

[www.singup.org](http://www.singup.org)

### Voluntary Arts

Voluntary Arts is the UK and Ireland representative agency for the voluntary and amateur arts and crafts. The website has lots of briefings on how to organise your group, fundraising and organising events.

[www.voluntaryarts.org](http://www.voluntaryarts.org)

### Musicians Union

The Musicians' Union represents over 30,000 musicians working in all sectors of the music business. The MU offers a range of services tailored for the self-employed by providing assistance for professional and student musicians of all ages.

[www.musiciansunion.org.uk](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk)

### Work Place Choirs

The BBC programme 'The Choir' has a host of resources on how to set up a work place choir from getting it started to your first performance.

[www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b008y125/features/workplace-choir](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b008y125/features/workplace-choir)

### Music in Offices

Music in Offices is the UK's leading provider of workplace choirs and instrumental tuition programmes.

[www.musicinoffices.com](http://www.musicinoffices.com)

### The Association of British Choral Directors

The Association of British Choral Directors is the only UK organisation devoted entirely to supporting those leading choral music, both amateur and professional.

[www.abcd.org.uk](http://www.abcd.org.uk)

### Awards for All

Awards for All Scotland puts lottery money back into communities by giving grants of between £500 and £10,000.

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/Awards-For-All](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/Awards-For-All)

### Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland is the national development agency for the arts, screen and creative industries.

[www.creativescotland.com](http://www.creativescotland.com)

