



Huntingdonshire Philharmonic Subscription Policy

Introduction

All members of Huntingdonshire Philharmonic (Hunts Phil) pay an annual subscription. Member subscriptions are our main source of income to support the running costs of the society, including rehearsal venue and music hire, salaries of the Music Director and Choral Conductor, and concert expenses not covered by ticket sales.

How we set subscriptions

The subscription is reviewed each season by the Hunts Phil Committee based on estimated running costs for the forthcoming year, and is proposed at a level that ensures all anticipated expenses can be met, after considering other income sources including concert ticket sales and income from fundraising activities and events.

The proposed subscription is presented and agreed at the society's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which is typically held in the first week of November. The new subscription rate is subject to a vote by all members in attendance at the AGM.

For the 2025/26 season, the agreed subscription is £190 for all members, with the exception of those in full-time education, who may participate in either the Choir or Orchestra free of charge.

Payment of Subscriptions

Once the AGM has confirmed the new subscription rate, payments become due immediately. All members are asked to pay their subscription by the end of December if they can. Existing members are requested not to pay before the AGM, as the subscription amount may change; early payments could therefore result in the need for additional payments or refunds.

Members are encouraged to pay their subscription in full wherever possible, as this significantly aids the society's cash flow and overall finances. The preferred payment method is bank transfer, using the following account details:

Account name: Huntingdonshire Philharmonic
Sort code: 20-43-63
Account number: 60505269

If confirmation of receipt of payment is required, please email Neil Stanworth at neil.stanworth@gmail.com.

While bank transfers are preferred, payments may also be made by cheque, payable to Huntingdonshire Philharmonic.



A single subscription gives members access to both the Choir and Orchestra if they meet the required standards; there is no expectation that a member will pay twice if they both sing and play.

If a member is unable to pay their subscription in full, they can, by prior agreement, pay in either two equal instalments or three instalments calculated as one third of the annual subscription, rounded up to the nearest £5 where necessary. For 2025/26, this means either two payments of £95 or three payments of £65. Members wishing to pay in instalments should approach the Chair of the Committee (Bronwen Rayner) or the Treasurer (Karen Mason) in confidence. Once an arrangement is agreed, confirmation will be provided in writing.

Donations and Gift Aid

As a registered charity, the Hunts Phil treats all subscriptions as charitable donations. Members are welcome to make additional donations alongside their subscription, and can make a single payment to cover both the subscription and any extra donation.

If a member is a taxpayer, their subscription (and any additional donation) qualifies for Gift Aid. This enables the society to reclaim tax, effectively increasing the value of the contribution by 25% at no extra cost to the member. Eligible members are therefore strongly encouraged to complete a Gift Aid form, providing their name, address, and telephone number. Gift Aid forms can be requested from Bronwen Rayner if a member of the Orchestra, or from the Membership Secretary (Jo Richardson) if in the Choir.

Joining Part Way Through the Year

New members who join part way through the year are not required to pay immediately, giving them the opportunity to try the society free of charge. We find that most people have made up their minds about joining after 3-4 rehearsals, but this is not a hard and fast rule and it is more important that new members are sure they want to join us.

Once a new member confirms that they want to join Hunts Phil, they will be asked to pay a subscription for the term in which they join, as well as any subsequent terms. They will also be asked to complete a Gift Aid form if eligible. The rate per term is one third of the annual subscription, rounded up to the nearest £5 where necessary. For 2025/26, the subscription for part or all of two terms is £130, and for one term is £65.

Existing members who know that they will not be attending for the whole year may also ask to pay only for the terms where they will be playing or singing.

Questions and Further Information

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Bronwen Rayner if you are in the Orchestra, or Jo Richardson if you are in the Choir.