

## Be a Benefactor

Rising Voices Wessex choirs are a unique local initiative that supports people affected by cancer.

A diagnosis of cancer can drastically change lives – bringing with fear it, anxiety, uncertainty and sadly, in many cases, loss and bereavement. Every year 375,000 new cases of cancer are diagnosed – that means one every two minutes - while you're reading this someone in the UK will be diagnosed with cancer.

Taking part in musical activity has been shown to improve health and wellbeing. Rising Voices Wessex gives local people and their families that opportunity. Rising Voices Wessex has helped many people recover health and confidence after cancer – and continues to do so.

The choirs are led by inspiring professional musicians and meet each week in Poole – performances by the choirs show how much singing can help. Inevitably there are costs – for musicians, hire of venues, music, etc. Rising Voices Wessex is a registered charity with income that comes from weekly donations by members and support from the People's Lottery.

To continue successfully, Rising Voices Wessex needs to increase its income, since, like many other charities, its income has been hugely reduced by the Covid pandemic effects – down by 67%.

To aid our financial recovery we are introducing a Benefactors' scheme and inviting supporters to donate regularly – £5.00 or £10.00 each month. When gift aid is added it would make a huge difference and help our mission of supporting those affected by cancer. You may

never meet the people you help, but they will know and appreciate you are helping them.

**Our Benefactor Programme** invites you give a monthly donation of £5.00 or £10.00 – for that we offer –

- Two tickets for one of Rising Voices Wessex's staged concerts each year
- An annual newsletter that lets you know of the choirs' achievements and progress
- For those who wish, acknowledgement on the website and in concert programmes of your support – or you may choose to remain anonymous
- Your donation will make a difference - you are helping those affected by cancer and potentially easing the burden on the NHS – with improved wellbeing, people's NHS needs can be significantly lessened

You do not need to be a member of the choirs to be a benefactor.

20 - 30 benefactors could provide an extra £1200 - 1800 per annum, or more with donations eligible for Gift Aid.

A regular annual or monthly donation can significantly help us to continue to make an impact on those with cancer, recovering from cancer, carers and those who have lost a loved one.

**The choir meets** at 6.45pm to 9pm on:

**Tuesday** St John's Church, Parkstone, BH14 0AA

## About Us

Rising Voices Wessex aims to link music and health together. Anyone who has experienced 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 favorites. No audition, no need to read music!

The Poole Choir is directed by

**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.

**Mark Anstead**, is co – director, a professional musician who is accomplished at playing and teaching, violin and piano.

### Contact us:

email [admin@risingvoices.org.uk](mailto:admin@risingvoices.org.uk)

See our website at [www.risingvoices.org.uk](http://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

For more details or to get involved, please email

[admin@risingvoices.org](mailto:admin@risingvoices.org).

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*"Making this possible is one of the most rewarding feelings, so I'd urge you to join me in support of Rising Voices Wessex."*

Dr Alastair Smith, Patron and Benefactor.