

Chapter History of Heart of London Threshold Choir

2025

Beginnings

In the heart of community and compassion, our Threshold Choir chapter was born in January 2015, founded by Natacha Ledwidge after reading about Threshold Choir in a newsletter shared by Chloe Greenwood. Inspired by the mission and music, Natacha continues to serve as our musical lead and organizer, guiding us with grace and dedication.

Our Members and Musical Family

Today, our chapter includes 20 singers, with 3 to 4 regularly offering their voices at bedsides or song baths. Among us, six original members remain active, a testament to the enduring spirit and connection that has grown over the years. While not related by blood, many of us consider ourselves “Soul Sisters,” bound by shared purpose and deep friendship.

Creativity flows freely in our group—four of our members (Natacha Ledwidge, Lala Birchak, Khristina Evans, and Sally Assor) have written songs that we actively sing, adding personal resonance to our repertoire. One member also sings with Companion Voices, a choir with a similar ethos, and while none of us have transferred from other Threshold chapters, we often welcome visiting singers with open arms.

Our Singing Practice

We gather every two weeks to rehearse, nurture our harmonies, and deepen our connection. On average, we sing at bedsides twice a month, though this has been affected by the temporary closure of our hospice building. Song baths are currently on pause.

Our clients come primarily from the Marie Curie Hampstead Hospice, through word of mouth, and from our monthly ceremonies at the Unitarian Church in Notting Hill. These spaces allow us to share our music in moments of transition, healing, and remembrance.

Chapter Growth and Leadership

Our chapter grew organically—through word of mouth and connections from a community choir we once sang in. New members join as they feel called; we don’t actively recruit, but when too many arrive at once, we stagger their integration to maintain intimacy and cohesion.

We embrace a leader-full model, sharing responsibilities among volunteers. Roles include new member care, membership renewal, finance, core song learning, and musical direction. This collaborative approach reflects our values of equality, trust, and shared stewardship.

Navigating COVID-19

The pandemic was a profound challenge. We adapted by meeting on Zoom, which became a lifeline—keeping us connected, even as we missed the physical act of singing together. Our musical director carried a heavy load during this time, and while some new members joined from afar and stayed through hybrid practices, the absence of bedside singing was deeply felt.

We eventually returned to singing at larger remembrance services in churches and outdoor events. Yet, the toll was real: some singers never fully recovered from the stress, with diagnoses of long COVID, anxiety, and even cancer. Still, we held each other close, and our music became a balm.

Our Heartbeat

We love our choir. The love between singers has grown into something sacred. We sing for healing, peace, and well-being—not just for others, but for ourselves. In our circle, we hold the sick, the dying, those in need of prayers, and those who have recently transitioned. We believe our songs are prayers, vibrations that ripple through each of us and out into the world.

UK Threshold Choir gathering on 10/04/2025.

The choirs represented here are the Heart of London TS, Moorheart TC, Hebden bridge TC, Liminal, Scarborough TC.



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