**Central Coast Chorale Rehearsal Etiquette**

* **MOBILE PHONES:** Leave your phone in your bag/pocket!
* Switch off, or turn the volume to silent on your mobile phone during rehearsals. There is nothing more distracting than hearing a phone ring while the conductor is speaking, or the choir is rehearsing. You will be reminded of this prior to the start of each rehearsal. Unless you’re a doctor or emergency service on-call, you should not need to look at, check, text or answer your phone during a rehearsal. If you MUST have your phone on during rehearsal, please advise a Committee Member, have the phone switched to vibrate and leave the rehearsal room before taking your call. This is general good manners, both to the conductor and to your fellow choristers.
* Notices/announcements are made prior to the start of rehearsal, so when you see someone standing at the front of the choir and the majority of the choir is seated, pay attention to that person.
* No talking or checking your mobile phone during rehearsals – even when you’re not singing or your section is not being directly addressed, do not take this as an opportunity to chat with your next door neighbour, answer a text, post on Facebook or phone a friend. Pay attention to what the conductor is saying, follow your part while another section is rehearsing and you will learn the music much faster. You may think you’re whispering, but most of the time a lot of other people can hear your conversation, or the vocal rumble can be very distracting and makes it difficult for fellow choristers to hear directions from the Conductor.
* If you absolutely have to communicate with your neighbour, write a note – discretely and pass it on.
* If you have a question to ask the Conductor, raise your hand and speak loudly and clearly when invited to do so. Limit your questions to the work that is being rehearsed at that time. Otherwise, if you think a more experienced member of the Chorale in your section may be able to help you, make a note of your query, and ask them before or after the rehearsal. There are a number of very experienced choristers who should be able to assist.
* During the last rehearsal prior to a performance (either the mid-week rehearsal or dress rehearsal on the day), the standing/sitting order will be established by the Conductor. Listen carefully to instructions from the Conductor, Concert Manager or other Committee Member for entering the concert space and walking on to the stage on the day of the Concert.