

Calling all singers!
Associate Soloist with *Escafeld Chorale*
Supported by a generous bequest from Gilly Surr

Invitation to apply

Closing date: 5.00pm on Sunday 4 March 2018

Would you like some financial support for your musical development and an opportunity to sing solo roles with an experienced local choir and its accomplished musical director? Then read on....

What are we looking for?

A young singer who will:

- perform to a high standard
- come with a recommendation from Sheffield University Music Department or a reputable singing teacher
- enjoy the opportunity for solo roles in three public concert programmes
- be able to benefit from individual support from our Musical Director
- have clear ideas about how our support will help their musical development
- support the Chorale in agreed ways, enthusiastically and appropriately
- provide evidence of reliability and loyalty
- have practical ideas about, and undertake, an ambassadorial role for the Chorale
- attend an agreed number of rehearsals

What are we offering the successful applicant?

- Working experience with a progressive mixed-voice choir of up to 80 voices
- An ongoing process of support, opportunity and guidance over a twelve-month period
- The possibility of renewing the arrangement for a further year
- Financial support of £400 for activities agreed with Escafeld's committee
- Collaboration with our Musical Director in the choice of music from Sept 2018 to August 2019: our 50th anniversary year!
- Opportunities to sing to new audiences in various venues in the city and region
- A varied and interesting range of music, which may include pieces from 16th-century to present-day composers

Please email a cv and formal letter of application to Carla Rohde at c.c.rohde@sheffield.ac.uk by 5.00pm on Sunday 4 March 2018

Please address the details listed above and include the name and contact details of two referees. We will let you know venue, date and time of audition as soon as possible. Interviews and auditions will be held in mid-March (details tbc). The Musical Director, Nigel Russell, will arrange to meet the successful applicant soon after.

For information, or to talk about your application, please contact our chairperson Christine Armitage on handcarmitage@aol.com Alternatively, speak first to Dr Stephanie Pitts in Sheffield University Music Department.

Visit our website or turn to the next page for more information about Escafeld Chorale.

Escafeld Chorale

Making fine music in and around Sheffield in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere

www.escafeldchorale.org.uk
Registered Charity no. 1110334

Escafeld Chorale began life in 1969 as the Fossdale Singers, our founding conductor being music teacher Ron Law. We've steadily grown to our present size of around 80 singers, with members drawn from the whole Sheffield area and covering a wide age range. From 1983 to 2001 Francis Wells (conductor, Bolsterstone Male Voice Choir) wielded the baton, developing the choir to tackle a wider range of choral music, from Palestrina, Byrd and Vivaldi, through Mozart, Haydn and Handel to Poulenc, Vaughan Williams and Britten. From 2001 to 2013, Peter Dutton continued to expand our repertoire, with works as varied as Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Haydn's *Creation*, Britten's *St Nicolas*, Ramirez' *Misa Criolla*, Goodall's *Eternal Light* and Charpentier's *Te Deum*. Ian Roberts continued this tradition to 2016, with performances ranging from major works such as Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* and Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* to shorter pieces by composers such as Langlais, Parry and Eric Whitacre. Our current MD, Nigel Russell, took up the baton in 2017, with an ambitious programme of British music including Elgar's *The Music Makers*.

Despite increasing in size, the choir retains a friendly atmosphere and new members are made very welcome. We don't ask them to audition or demonstrate sight-reading ability, but we do aim for high standards and encourage members to work hard during rehearsals and practise between them. We are keen to encourage and advance younger singers and musicians with our Associate Soloist scheme and by actively seeking younger singers for our choir and ensembles of younger instrumentalists for our concerts.

Our current Associate Soloist is Timothy Peters, former student in the Music Department. Our 2016–17 soloist was Keren Hadas, also a former student in the Music Department, and our 2015–16 Associate Soloist, Lindsey James, sang with the choir of King's College London, and took part in the 2016 Genesis Sixteen project.

2018–19 will be our 50th Anniversary Year, and we look forward to welcoming a new Associate Soloist to play a part in our celebrations!

Chairperson: Chris Armitage handcarmitage@aol.com

Musical Director: Nigel Russell

Secretary: Alison Allen-Booth alisonallenbooth@googlemail.com