

TONNA MALE VOICE CHOIR

MUSICAL DIRECTOR

JOB DESCRIPTION



Tonna Male Voice Choir is a four-section choir of around 45 enthusiastic, genuine members, who carry on the tradition of choral singing. New choristers are always welcome.

The choir has performed in hundreds of concerts, at venues all over Britain, Ireland, mainland Europe and North America. We have raised many thousands of pounds over the years for charity, and are delighted when asked to sing locally for worthy causes.

The current musical team comprises a Musical Director and two accompanists, one of whom is the Deputy Musical Director.

The choir performs a wide genre of music, from the traditional Welsh choral tradition up to modern day popular music.

The Choir rehearses twice weekly, at 7.30pm to 9pm on Mondays and Wednesdays at Tonna Community Primary School.

MAIN PURPOSE OF ROLE

The Musical Director's role is to lead all musical aspects of the Choir's activities including repertoire, rehearsals, concert programming and the development of technique. We are a mixed ability non-auditioned choir, and enjoyment in our music-making in rehearsals and concerts and encouraging every member to be the best they can is at the heart of the MD's role. The vast majority of the choir members do not read music fluently.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The MD will be responsible for:

- Working in partnership with the Committee to develop an annual concert programme – the day-to-day responsibility for concert management rests with the Committee, but the MD will be expected to liaise as necessary with the Secretary and other MDs (in the case of joint concerts).
- Selection of music appropriate to the choir, both from the Choir's existing repertoire and new works, so that our concert programme develops, and new pieces are introduced on a regular basis.
- Putting together appropriate programmes for the Choir's public concerts and other performances, whether these are performed solely by the Choir or shared programmes with other choirs, bands or ensembles.
- Conducting the Choir in rehearsals, concerts and other performances.

- Planning and leading the twice-weekly rehearsals so that concert programmes are developed in a timely manner and new pieces are included when appropriate.
- Teaching technical aspects of singing to the choir in rehearsal.
- Leading the Choir on tours, whether in festivals or the Choir's arranged visits, including concerts and rehearsal time.
- Attending and contributing to the Choir's Committee meetings, and providing reports to the Committee when required.
- Providing an Annual Musical Director's Report to the Annual General Meeting.
- As agreed with the Committee, delegating functions to the Deputy Musical Director and/or accompanist(s) if the MD is exceptionally unavailable for a rehearsal, except in the event of illness.
- Liaising with the Choir Chairman on a regular basis.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

SKILLS

1. Highly competent musician
2. Ability to conduct, and teach choral music
3. Ability to hold others to high standards
4. Demonstrable attention to detail
5. Able to instil confidence in others
6. Highly desirable to be a competent keyboard player

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

1. Proven experience of working with choral groups
2. Experience of conducting performances with choir, professional soloists and instrumentalists
3. Knowledge of a wide choral repertoire
4. Knowledge of vocal technique and able to communicate this in an encouraging and accessible manner
5. Able to work creatively within financial constraints
6. Has knowledge of strategies to recruit new members and retain existing members
7. Able to lead rehearsals from the keyboard in the absence of an accompanist

PERSONAL QUALITIES

1. Effective and confident communicator
2. Demonstrates excitement, enthusiasm and vitality
3. Good humoured and personable
4. Shows patience and empathetic understanding of the choir's and individuals' needs
5. Able to challenge under-performance in a supportive and diplomatic way
6. Able to promote members' enjoyment of rehearsals and pleasure in performance

TMVC COMMITTEE

APRIL 2024