

# ELTHAM CHORAL SOCIETY

Registered Charity No 1023904  
President: Sir Willard White  
Vice President: Clive Efford MP  
Chairman: Rod Tutt

## ELTHAM CHORAL SOCIETY – MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Eltham Choral Society is looking for a Musical Director to direct and train the choir from April 2010 as the current Musical Director is moving to Australia to take up a new appointment.

- **Closing date for applications is Friday 5 February 2010**
- **Shortlisted candidates will be notified by Thursday 18 February 2010**
- **Interviews and auditions will be held on Thursday 4 March 2010**

Auditions will involve rehearsing the choir in the work currently being prepared for performance, together with another challenging and less familiar piece.

The appointment of the MD will be subject to satisfactory references.

### INFORMATION ABOUT THE POST

- The MD takes rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm till 9.30pm at St Luke's Church, Westmount Road, Eltham, London SE9 (normally during academic terms), and ensures that rehearsals start and finish on time. The MD is paid from 7.15 pm to 9.30 pm for each rehearsal evening.
- Payment is made against an invoice, normally at the end of each calendar month
- The MD prepares the choir, soloists and orchestra/accompanist and normally conducts three or four concerts per year.
- The contract is in line with the Incorporated Society of Musicians *Agreement for the Appointment of a Director of Music: Self-Employed*.
- Remuneration for rehearsals is £39 per hour (pending review)
- Remuneration for concerts is £440 (pending review) for each concert including the last rehearsal, which is usually on the concert day
- The contract is renewable every three years, and is subject to the completion of a probationary trial period covering the time up to and including the first concert after the appointment.
- The choir will provide a regular accompanist to support the MD at rehearsals and concerts
- A tour to Normandy has been organised for 3-6 June 2010 and the successful candidate will be expected to direct the choir for the tour
- There is a joint concert in June 2010 with the Blackheath Choir and Sidcup Symphony Orchestra at Blackheath Halls conducted by Patricia Williams. The MD will be the ECS Chorus Master for this concert

## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

### **Overall objectives**

To direct and develop choral music as required by the elected Committee of the Society.

### **Principal duties**

- To train the choir to perform works chosen with the agreement of the Committee.
- To liaise regularly with both the ECS Chair and the ECS Programme Co-ordinator
- To advise and assist the Committee in selecting works and in planning concerts.
- To conduct the choir and other performers at concerts
- To ensure the highest possible musical standards are achieved both at rehearsals and concerts consistent with the Society's musical and financial resources.
- To identify and audition soloists and other performers, including musicians, needed for concerts and make relevant recommendations to the Committee for their engagement.
- To provide musical training for the choir as appropriate (eg sight reading, vocal production).
- To prepare the choir for tours as and when required, and to participate in tours as MD when available.
- To be responsible for providing a deputy in the event of not being able to take a rehearsal.
- To attend Committee meetings by invitation.

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

### **Qualifications and experience**

- A music degree or equivalent
- Demonstrated ability and experience of conducting a mixed voice choir
- Experience of orchestral conducting
- Experience of voice training adult amateur singers of mixed ability, some of whom may have limited musical experience

### **Skills and ability**

- Vision and commitment to guide and develop the choir's future direction.
- Ability to accompany on piano and/or organ.
- Ability to demonstrate vocal techniques
- Good interpersonal skills, including the ability to lead and direct the choir and work with the elected Committee.
- Enthusiasm, drive and energy
- Commitment to the Society's Constitution and ethos

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applicants should send a letter outlining their suitability for the post together with their CV and the names of two referees to the Secretary of Eltham Choral Society at [secretary@elthamchoral.org.uk](mailto:secretary@elthamchoral.org.uk). Please indicate your availability to lead the choir in the tour to France in June 2010 – a fee will be paid together with travel, accommodation and some meal costs.