

VACANCY – MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Brampton Chamber Choir is seeking a Musical Director from January 2018. The choir numbers around 25 and rehearses on a Sunday evening in Brampton Methodist Church.

The Choir performs three main concerts a year – generally Christmas, Easter and Summer – as well as a patrons' concert (in either early summer or autumn) to which patrons of the Choir are admitted free, and others can attend for a small charge. The Choir's Easter and Summer concerts are often repeated in another venue. This summer, for instance, we performed in Kirkhaugh near Alston and in Brampton and at Easter in Brampton and Carlisle.

The Choir's main musical focus is early Renaissance polyphony with the balance of programmes leaning towards this period. The Choir wishes this to continue to be the case as, we have found, do our audiences. In recent years, however, the Choir has performed music from other periods alongside our more familiar repertoire and is happy to continue so doing. Programmes have included works by Seiber, Pärt, Vaughan-Williams, Gjeilo, Fauré, Elgar and Lauridsen as well as compositions by Jerry King, our outgoing Musical Director, and Martin Johnson, one of our tenors.

After seven years, during which he has achieved a great deal with the Choir, Jerry King is moving to pastures new and the Choir is seeking a highly competent musician, preferably with proven experience of conducting, to lead and develop the Choir.

The Musical Director is responsible for programming and conducting concerts, producing programme notes, and all matters pertaining to the musical direction of the choir, for rehearsing the choir and leading it in the exploration and interpretation of the music to be sung. The Choir does not employ an accompanist, so some measure of keyboard skills would be required for rehearsal purposes. The Musical Director would also be required to liaise with the Brampton Consort (a group of five Choir members which undertakes its own performances in addition to contributing to the Choir's concert programmes).

The Choir is administered by a Committee of which the Musical Director is an ex officio member. Much business is conducted by email but the Committee generally meets at least once per term; the Musical Director would be required to attend all Committee meetings. The Committee is comprised of a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Consort Representative, Choir Representative and two other members whose responsibilities include publicity and programme production.

Further details and information can be obtained from Janet Davies by email (jdaviesdomi@talktalk.net) or telephone (01434 321063).

Additional information about the Choir can be found at <http://www.bramptonchamberchoir.org.uk>.

The appointment will commence in January 2018 although decisions on music for the Easter concert would need to be made prior to that date.

Terms: £100 per term to cover the devising of the programme, and arrangements for the concert(s) in conjunction with committee members, plus £35 per two-hour rehearsal