



MUSICAL DIRECTOR REQUIRED

TRINITY SINGERS is a choir of 30-35 amateur singers, with a reputation for quality performances of a wide range of styles, from sacred to secular, at venues in North Somerset.

We are looking for an experienced Musical Director to start in September 2026.

Historically we have put on three or four concerts a year, some being Saturday evenings and others Sunday afternoons, plus a Christmas Concert, a Carol Service, Carol Singing, and a summer concert at, for example, a Retirement complex.

Rehearsals take place on Tuesday evenings, at Churchill Primary School, Pudding Pie Lane, Langford, North Somerset BS40 5EL, from 7.30 to 9.30.

REQUIREMENTS

- You should have experience of conducting and coaching choral groups and instrumental ensembles.
- Competence in, and knowledge of, vocal technique.
- Good knowledge of choral repertoire and the ability to assemble a suitable choral programme for a competent amateur choir which will provide sufficient interest and challenge both to retain and attract singers and audiences.
- Keyboard skills sufficient to support rehearsals.
- Ability to source and book professional musicians as required for planned concerts.
- You will be required to work closely with the Committee / Trustees in developing the choir.
- You would be expected to provide a suitable deputy in the event of any unavoidable or unexpected rehearsal absence.

REMUNERATION

Subject to experience and negotiation – c. £100 per rehearsal and £300 per concert day, including travel.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS

31ST January 2026

There will be in-person interviews and rehearsal auditions on 24th and 31st March 2026 at our rehearsal venue.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on the application process, a full Job Description, and more background on the choir please visit our website www.trinitysingers.co.uk

December 2025



MUSICAL DIRECTOR – APPLICATION PROCESS

Thank you for your interest in the role of Musical Director, Trinity Singers.

Attached are a number of documents which will give you an idea of what we are seeking, and the way forward.

1. The wording of our Advertisement
2. Job Description
3. History and Objectives of the choir

Also on our website you will find further information, including a link to video clips of a recent concert.

The closing date for applications is 31st January 2026, and we propose to create an initial shortlist of candidates immediately after that, based on initial submissions as requested below, and to hold initial Zoom Interviews in the second half of February.

This will lead to rehearsal auditions and F2F interviews with members of the Committee, on the evening of either Tuesday 24th or 31st March, at our rehearsal venue. The precise timings will be agreed with candidates.

At the rehearsal audition, to be 30 minutes, we will ask candidates to conduct one short piece selected by the choir (advised in advance), and to rehearse one piece of your choice. This to be roughly 3 minutes long.

Remuneration will be for discussion based on experience and qualification but will be c. £100 per rehearsal and £300 per concert day, including travel.

It is our intention that the successful candidate will be notified within the 2 weeks following the rehearsal audition

If you wish to apply for the role please provide:-

- Your CV
- Your thoughts on how you might wish to take the choir forward based on the History and Aims of the choir (no more than one side of A4)
- A sample programme for a 45–50-minute concert, reflecting the view you have formed of the choir from the information available to you
- Contact information for two references from choirs you have worked with

This should be sent to bob.shapland@btinternet.com

If you wish to have an informal discussion, or require any clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Bob Shapland

Chairman

December 2025



MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Job Description

Reports To

Chair & Trustees (The Committee)

Overview

The Musical Director (MD) is the artistic leader of Trinity Singers, responsible for the musical integrity, development and success of the choir. The MD will cultivate a challenging, rewarding, and supportive environment for amateur singers who strive to achieve high-quality performance. The choir performs a mixture of a cappella works, pieces with piano, organ and small instrumental ensembles.

Key Responsibilities

Artistic Leadership & Vision

- **Repertoire Selection:** Working with the Committee to research, propose, and select diverse, balanced, and challenging musical programmes appropriate for the choir's abilities and performance schedule. The repertoire will span various periods and include sacred and secular, and modern works and arrangements of popular music.
- **Artistic Standard:** Establish and maintain high musical standards in performance and rehearsal, focusing on vocal technique, blend, intonation, diction, timing and musical expression.
- **Concert Programming:** As described above, develop creative and cohesive concert programmes, ideally one year in advance, including co-ordinating with potential instrumentalists, soloists and guest artists as needed.

Rehearsal & Performance

- **Conducting:** Lead all rehearsals and performances with clear, engaging, and effective conducting.
- **Rehearsal Planning:** Prepare detailed and efficient rehearsal plans, ensuring effective use of time to maximise progress.
- **Vocal Development:** Provide instruction on proper vocal production, breathing, and musicianship, aiding in the continuous development of individual singers' skills as required.
- **Performance Logistics:** Work with the Committee to ensure all performance-related musical logistics (e.g. stage layout, instrumental placement, acoustic check, entering and exiting the stage etc.) are planned and executed efficiently.
- **Programming:** Prepare programme notes (when required) in advance of performances, conduct concert performances and ad hoc events as requested and when available.

Choir Management & Administration

- **Budgeting:** Discuss and agree operating budgets for concerts and potential programmes with the Committee.
- **Vocal Assessments:** Conduct and oversee the vocal assessment process for new members (and current members if required), making decisions on singer placement and membership in conjunction with the Chair or Committee.
- **Music Library:** Work with the Librarian to ensure the efficient ordering, distribution, and collection of music scores.
- **Collaboration:** Act as the primary liaison between the artistic and administrative functions of the choir, attending committee meetings as required to report on artistic matters and planning. Serve as ex officio member of the Committee.
- **Instrumentalists/Soloists:** Work with the Committee to advise on engaging and contracting suitable accompanists and professional instrumentalists/soloists for rehearsals and concerts, within the approved budget.

Time Commitment & Remuneration

Rehearsals: Rehearse the choir weekly on Tuesday evenings, from 7.30-9.30 (including a 10-15 min break), to a schedule agreed with the Committee, between September and July. This will equate to approximately 39 rehearsals, generally aligned to local school term dates.

Concerts: The choir aims to perform 3 to 4 programmes per year, with 8-10 rehearsals per concert. These are usually in mid-late October, at Christmas, pre-Easter and usually a summer programme, which may include a community event.

Commitment: One rehearsal per week plus concerts, which will include a rehearsal on the day. Time for music preparation, score study, voice allocation and Committee Meetings will not be reimbursed unless agreed in advance.

The post will be contracted for three years with a period of mutual assessment after 2 concerts or 6 months, whichever is shorter. This will involve a choir survey and meeting with members of the committee. Following the period of mutual assessment, a notice period of 6 months will be required.

Remuneration: Remuneration is negotiable depending on skills and experience but an indicative figure is £100 per weekly rehearsal and £300 per concert (to include all preparation and any rehearsal on the day) inclusive of travel and expenses, on a self-employed basis.

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HISTORY, AIMS and AMBITIONS

BACKGROUND

Trinity Singers was formed in 1998 to bring together the church choirs of three local Parishes for Christmas Services.

Following that success the then Vicar of Burrington and Churchill (John Abdy), together with organist and choir master Jeremy Martin, decided to make the choir a permanent feature and it took the name Trinity Singers in January 1999. Gradually the choir programme has broadened to a mixture of sacred and secular music at concerts and services.

Over the years concerts have been presented in many local churches and other venues, including St Mary Redcliffe and St Monica's in Bristol, and the choir undertook an exchange with a choir based in Florence.

In 2015 Andrew Tyrrell was appointed Musical Director. Andrew was known to the choir through our links to Churchill Academy and had written a specially commissioned piece in memory of our founder, Rev. John Abdy.

Under Andrew's direction the choir has widened its repertoire and improved both in overall sound and rhythmically (Andrew being a percussionist!).

In 2023 the choir became a Registered Charity.

Although numbers reduced through the Covid years, the choir recovered and looks forward to continued success over the coming years as we further develop our repertoire and attract new singers and audiences.

The choir has a reputation as a good local choir.

REPERTOIRE

Our repertoire is varied ranging from well-known choral works through arrangements of popular songs and works written for us.

Information on previous concert programmes is available on our website www.trinitysingers.co.uk

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals take place at Churchill Primary School, BS40 5EL, on a Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30.

The musical year starts in September and runs through July, with breaks (when possible) during school holidays.

SINGERS

Although not formally auditioned, new members will be asked to undertake a vocal assessment by the MD and an ability to read music is required.

We currently vary between 30 and 35 singers of varying ability and intend to grow this number to around 40.

PATTERN OF CONCERTS AND VENUES

In recent years the pattern has settled as one significant evening concert, two less formal afternoon concerts, a Christmas concert, one community event (e.g. at a Retirement Village or similar), a Christmas Carol Service and a session of 'street carolling'.

Joint concerts with other choirs, or the local Academy have been undertaken and are under consideration for the future.

Our venues tend to be local churches in Wroughton, Yatton, Congresbury and Weston super Mare.

AIMS, AMBITIONS and ETHOS

A recent survey has confirmed that members:-

- enjoy making music of high quality in the company of like-minded people for the pleasure of audiences
- wish to raise musical standards through controlled selection of repertoire to provide both challenge and reward
- enjoy performing concerts with a varied repertoire incorporating both Sacred and Secular music, and including larger scale works such as Oratorios
- have a desire to tackle challenging works as well as enjoying some of the more familiar choral repertoire
- are comfortable singing unaccompanied, or accompanied by piano or organ, as well as small ensembles
- prefer singing in English, Latin or common European languages (although Russian is possible)
- like to be able to develop musical skills, both as individuals and as a choir
- like giving concerts and other events, principally in the area local to Churchill both for paying audiences and in community settings
- are happy to undertake joint initiatives, such as with local secondary schools or other choirs

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