

Calling all singers!

Associate Soloist with *Escafeld Chorale*

Invitation to apply from Monday 10th February

Closing date: 5.00pm on Friday 7th March 2025

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
- be able to benefit from individual support from our Musical Director
- have clear ideas about how our support will help their musical development
- undertake an ambassadorial role for the Chorale, including by performing to a high standard and demonstrating a reliable and enthusiastic attitude
- the Associate Soloist is very welcome to join us in our term-time rehearsals on Tuesday evenings!

What are we offering the successful applicant?

- The chance to enjoy guaranteed solo roles in three public concert programmes
- Working experience with a progressive mixed-voice choir of up to 70 voices
- An ongoing process of support, opportunity and guidance over a twelve-month period
- Financial support of £400 for activities agreed with Escafeld's committee
- Collaboration with our Musical Director in the choice of music from Sept 2025 to August 2026
- 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 Friday March 7th

Please address the details listed above and include the names and contact details of two referees.

Interviews and auditions will be held in mid-to-late March. We will let you know venue, date and time of audition as soon as possible. The Musical Director, George Parsons, will arrange to meet the successful applicant soon after.

For information, or to talk about your application, please contact our chair Sarah Hindmarsh on slhindmarsh@outlook.com. Alternatively, speak first to Dr Simon Keegan-Phipps in Sheffield University Music Department. **Visit our website or turn to the next page for more information about Escafeld Chorale.**



Some background information about Escafeld Chorale

Escafeld Chorale began life in 1969 as the Fossdale Singers, under music teacher Ron Law. We've steadily grown to our present size of 60–70 singers, with members drawn from the whole Sheffield area and covering a wide age range. Over the years, we have performed a wide range of choral music, from Palestrina and Vivaldi, through Mozart and Handel, to Poulenc and Britten. Our repertoire covers Brahms's *Ein Deutsches Requiem*, Ramirez's *Misa Criolla*, Goodall's *Eternal Light* and, in 2018, Bach's *St Matthew Passion* in association with English Touring Opera. Our current MD is George Parsons, himself a former student of the TUOS Music Department.

The choir retains a friendly atmosphere and new members are made very welcome. We don't ask members to audition, but we do aim for high standards. We encourage and advance younger singers and musicians with our Associate Soloist scheme and by actively seeking ensembles of younger instrumentalists for our concerts.

Our most recent Associate Soloist was Elise Pelo, graduate of the Music Department. Our Associate Soloists have generally gone on to pursue musical careers. Matthew Palmer (2010–11) has been heard in many opera and oratorio roles around the UK; Lindsey James (2015–16) teaches music at the north London School while maintaining a successful singing career as a graduate of the Genesis Sixteen programme. Other previous soloists have gone on to be heard on Radio 4; to compose; and to perform in international tours.

Chair: Sarah Hindmarsh shindmarsh@outlook.com

Music Director: George Parsons

Secretary: Alison Allen-Booth alisonallenbooth@googlemail.com

The Escafeld Chorale Associate Soloist Scheme has previously been supported by a generous bequest from former choir member Gilly Surr.

www.escafeldchorale.org.uk

Registered Charity no. 1110334.



Escafeld Chorale

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

www.escafeldchorale.org.uk