

Appointment of Musical Director from September 2025

Who we are: Oxshott Choral Society (OCS) is a non-auditioned SATB-choir with an average yearly membership of 50 singers drawn from Oxshott, Surrey, and the neighbouring communities, in particular Stoke D'Abernon and Cobham. Originally founded in 1933 and re-formed in 1976 by our current, retiring Musical Director, we are proud of our heritage but enthusiastic for the future and ready for new ideas and musical challenges.

We enjoy learning and performing a wide range of music from the choral classics to modern works, sacred and secular. We currently stage two concerts a year of our own programming, one at Christmas and one in June. We are also a participating choir in the annual Leith Hill Music Festival, held each April in Dorking. The latter enables us to join with other local choirs to perform large choral works, from Bach to Beethoven, Elgar to Paul Carr.

The right person for us: We are seeking an energetic and inspirational Musical Director to help us achieve our vision to be a thriving and sustainable choral society, well known within our communities, welcoming and inclusive with a passion for making great and inspiring music, continuous learning and for sharing the joy of singing and performing together.

The role: In addition to being responsible for the overall musical standard of the choir and preparing it for concert performances, the key responsibilities of our Musical Director are:

- conducting the choir at rehearsals, OCS concerts and any other concerts and events in which the Society decides to participate.
- planning and arranging Christmas and Summer concert programmes in consultation with the Committee and in line with the concert budget for the year.
- Preparing and conducting the choir for our Christmas and Summer concerts, including recommending and recruiting soloists and other musicians. These concerts are currently held on Saturday or Sunday evenings with a full afternoon rehearsal on the day.
- preparing the choir for participation in the Leith Hill Music Festival each Spring (alternating on a Friday or Saturday in April), including recommending competition recital pieces, leading us through the Competition Morning and teaching the festival set works.
- providing a stand-in conductor for any rehearsals or concerts they cannot attend. The Chair or Secretary must be notified in advance.
- Leading occasional Saturday singing mornings/workshops, by mutual agreement.

Rehearsals: We currently rehearse on Wednesday evening during term time at St Mary's Church Hall, Stoke D'Abernon (KT11 3PX). The autumn and spring terms average 14 weeks and the summer term 8 weeks. An additional Saturday singing morning is usually scheduled in the Spring and Summer terms.

Outline terms: The successful candidate will be engaged on a self-employed basis at a competitive hourly rate, based on experience.

Selected candidates will be called for interview during February and those short-listed will be invited to audition in March. The appointment will be made in the Spring and will commence on 1st September 2025.

More details about us and an application form are available on our website: www.oxshottchoral.org.uk
For further information about the Leith Hill Music Festival, please visit: www.lhmf.org.uk

Applications should be sent by email to Claire King at secretary@oxshottchoral.org.uk and must be received by 9th February 2025.