

## **Choral Conductor / Musical Director – Esterházy Chamber Choir**

**Location:** Lewes, East Sussex

**Rehearsals:** Wednesday evenings (7:30pm – 9:30pm)

**Position Type:** Permanent

**Start Date:** January 2027 (or by agreement)

### **About Us**

We are an auditioned amateur chamber choir of around 35 singers based in the historic town of Lewes. Our standard is high, and our members are passionate musicians with a variety of experience. We specialize in unaccompanied choral music, spanning from early polyphony to contemporary commissions. While our focus is a cappella, we occasionally collaborate with instrumental ensembles for larger works. More information can be found on our website [www.esterhazychoir.org](http://www.esterhazychoir.org)

### **The Role**

We are seeking an inspiring, talented Choral Conductor to lead us into our next musical chapter. You will shape our artistic vision, select challenging repertoire, and actively work to develop our overall sound, vocal technique, and performance standard. You will conduct all rehearsals and performances, maintaining a supportive yet disciplined environment.

You will be supported by a members committee whose role includes the organisation of venues, publicity, ticket sales and finances.

The role is remunerated in line with other local choirs.

### **Key Responsibilities**

- Plan and deliver engaging weekly Wednesday evening rehearsals in Lewes.
- Nurture, refine, and improve the choir's overall ensemble sound and performance delivery.
- Audition new members and monitor vocal balance, holding annual voice appraisals.
- Select and source diverse, high-quality classical repertoire as agreed with the committee.
- Create and manage accurate, realistic budgets for all concerts and projects.
- Arrange a suitable, qualified deputy conductor to cover rehearsals when you are unavailable.
- Select and engage soloists and instrumentalists in partnership with the committee.
- Attend committee meetings and be an integral part of the decision-making process.
- Conduct 3 to 4 major concerts per year.
- Attend and report to the AGM.

### **Requirements**

- Proven experience conducting high-level chamber choirs.
- Exceptional keyboard skills for score reading and rehearsal accompaniment.
- Experience collaborating with instrumentalists and orchestral musicians.
- Strong financial literacy with experience planning event or concert budgets.
- Deep knowledge of classical choral repertoire and vocal pedagogy.

- Strong communication and leadership skills to inspire amateur singers.
- A firm, diplomatic and tactful approach to choir members of varying abilities.
- A commitment to working in collaboration with the committee concerning all choir business.
- An established network within the choral community to source rehearsal deputies.

### **How to Apply**

Please send your CV and a short covering letter detailing your relevant experience to [esterhazychoir@outlook.com](mailto:esterhazychoir@outlook.com) Please include links to video recordings of you conducting or rehearsing a choir if available. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to an interview and an audition with the choir. Informal enquiries about the position are welcomed and prospective applicants are invited to hear the choir at one of their regular Wednesday evening rehearsals, subject to prior arrangement.

**Application Deadline:** 26<sup>th</sup> July 2026

**Audition/Interview Date:** September/October 2026 by arrangement