The Rolling Hills Chorus

An Invitation to Lead The Rolling Hills Chorus



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Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the role of Musical Director of The Rolling Hills Chorus.

We are a friendly and ambitious chorus with a passion for singing and performing. As we look to the future, we're seeking a Musical Director who will help us continue to develop musically, inspire our members and build on the strong foundations of the chorus.



This pack tells you a little about who we are, what we're looking for and what the role involves. If it feels like the right opportunity for you, we'd be delighted to hear from you and welcome you to one of our rehearsals.

Iain Whyte

Chair, Rolling Hills Chorus

The Rolling Hills Chorus

The Rolling Hills at a glance

- Founded – Galashiels 1992
- Members – 46
- Rehearsal venue – Polwarth Parish Church, 36-38 Polwarth Terrace, Edinburgh EH11 1LU
- Rehearsal night – Tuesday 7:30pm – 9:45pm
- Key Performance schedule
    - Edinburgh Fringe
    - 2-3 community concerts throughout the year
    - a Christmas program of concerts and carol singing for charity
    - Attend BABS convention every alternate year in Harrogate
- Website - https://rollinghills.org.uk/
- Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/rhchorus

Recruitment Process

To apply

Please send your CV, a covering letter outlining your relevant experience and interest in the role, and the contact details of two referees to:
Ian Mclean: secretary@members.rollinghills.org.uk

Recruitment timeline

- **Application deadline Friday 28th August 2026**
- Expected Start date – specifics by arrangement – January 2027

Any questions – **Ian Mclean:** secretary@members.rollinghills.org.uk
or call – 0755 310 2743

The Rolling Hills Chorus

Job Description - Key Responsibilities

- Lead weekly rehearsals on Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 9.45
- Lead engaging and inclusive rehearsals that
    - boost confidence
    - encourage musical growth
    - engage and inspire our singers
    - foster enthusiasm and camaraderie.
- Work with the chorus to guide our musical choices, including:
    - Selecting our repertoire
    - Shaping our chorus sound
    - Appointing the music team.
- Lead the chorus at our concerts, contests, and occasional weekend rehearsals and outreach events.
- Organise audition procedures, assessments and coaching support
- Provide vocal guidance to the chorus, developing healthy singing and vocal technique
- Work with the Board of Trustees to help plan, organise and coordinate events and to further the aims of the Chorus
- Attend Board of Trustees meetings, where appropriate, in an advisory capacity.
- Chair Music Team meetings.

The Musical Director will be appointed on a self-employed basis with a remuneration subject to negotiation and having regard to the candidates' skills and previous experience. The level of remuneration will be reviewed annually. The successful candidate will not be employed but will be engaged as an independent contractor providing services to the chorus. They will be responsible for their own income tax liabilities and National Insurance contributions.

Person Specification - Who We Are Looking For

We're looking for an inspiring Musical Director who shares our passion for great singing and our belief that musical excellence, enjoyment and personal development go hand in hand.

We welcome applications from candidates with a range of musical backgrounds and levels of directing experience. Whether you are an established Musical Director or an emerging musical leader ready to take the next step, we'd encourage you to apply if you believe you can inspire our members and help shape the future of the Rolling Hills Chorus.

Musical Leadership

The successful candidate will:

- be an accomplished musician with excellent vocal and musicianship skills.
- have a passion for close harmony singing and a good understanding of the barbershop style or demonstrate the enthusiasm and ability to develop that expertise.
- have a keen musical ear for tuning, balance, blend and ensemble sound.

- be able to demonstrate and coach healthy vocal technique in an engaging and supportive way.
- be able to inspire singers of all abilities to achieve their full musical potential.
- be able to deliver rehearsals that are well prepared, purposeful, challenging and enjoyable.
- be able to deliver memorable performances, enjoyable for singers and audience alike

Leadership and Communication

The successful candidate will be an inspiring, approachable and positive leader who:

- creates an environment in which singers enjoy learning and performing together.
- builds confidence through encouragement, constructive feedback and clear musical direction.
- communicates effectively with chorus members, audiences, the Music Team and the Board of Trustees.
- fosters a welcoming, inclusive and supportive culture where every member feels valued.

Vision and Development

We are looking for someone who:

- shares our ambition to help the chorus sing better, perform better and have fun
- recognises that a thriving chorus depends on both musical excellence and growing its membership
- will bring creativity, fresh ideas and engaging repertoire

Organisation and Professionalism

The successful candidate will:

- be well organised, reliable and professional in planning and delivering rehearsals, performances and musical activities.
- be able to build a positive, collaborative relationship with the Board and Music team

If you believe you have the passion, skills and vision to inspire the Rolling Hills Chorus and help shape its future, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Chorus Activities and Commitments

- Occasional additional rehearsals, coaching sessions and sectionals.
- Chairing Music Team meetings (online), approximately every two months (around one hour).
- Attending Board meetings (online) as required. The frequency and duration will be agreed with the successful candidate and will normally relate to musical planning and key decisions.
- Attendance at the annual chorus retreat weekend (expenses paid).
- Attendance at the BABS Convention and Competition, including the Harrogate convention in alternate years (expenses paid).

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- Musical direction for our principal concerts, including our Edinburgh Fringe performances and/or autumn concert, together with any associated additional rehearsals.
- Directing our Christmas concert and selected carol singing engagements.
- Leading other performances and community events throughout the year.
- Preparation and planning time to support rehearsals, performances and repertoire development.
- Opportunities for continuing professional development, including attendance at the BABS Directors' Academy by mutual agreement.

Please note that we are in the process of reviewing with our members the future direction and operation of the Chorus and will discuss this with potential MD candidates. The successful candidate will have their own views on Chorus Development and we look forward to working with them to agree a workload and rehearsal approach that suits everyone.



Vers 1/8/2026