

New Choral Director joins Cathedral

Dean Graham O'Brien is pleased to welcome Nigel Weeks QSM to Nelson Cathedral as he takes up the role of Choral Director.

"Nigel brings a wealth of knowledge and ability in choral music and we are looking forward to our Cathedral gaining a reputation for excellent choral music," said Dean O'Brien.

"Nigel will join our Cathedral Organist Paul Chan to complete this stage of our musical vision and it is very exciting that we have these two nationally acclaimed musicians at our Cathedral here in Nelson," added Dean O'Brien.

Nigel originates from Wales and was appointed Musical Director of the Continental Airlines Auckland Brass Band in 1994 which began a very successful career in both the concert and contest arenas. The band under his direction won five New Zealand and three Australian titles.

From 2014-17 Nigel was the Musical Director of the NZ National Band who were runners up at the World Championships in the Netherlands.

Nigel is an experienced music educator and has worked as Director of Music at Manurewa High School, King's College and Macleans College Auckland where under Nigel's guidance the music department became one of the most successful in NZ, winning awards for their chamber orchestra, orchestra and concert band; all three groups being directed by him.

In 2016, Nigel moved to Nelson to take up the position of Head of Music and Performing Arts at Nayland College and Musical Director of NBS Nelson City Brass Band. Since joining the brass band he has led them to three national championships and subsequent promotion to 'A' Grade.

He has been in demand in Nelson conducting the Symphony Orchestra, Civic Choir and the Male Voice Choir and as many of you will know, Nigel has been a member of our Cathedral Choir.

Nigel holds a Master of Arts (Conducting) from the University of Salford and in 2019 was awarded the QSM for his work in music, particularly with young people and non-auditioned choirs.

"I am very much looking forward to working with the Cathedral Choir and leading it on to choral excellence," said Nigel. "It is a real privilege and I would like to grow the choir especially with young people from nearby local schools."

