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In addition to singing for service twice weekly in College, Christ's choir pursues an exciting range of activities outside of Chapel, regularly performing in London and around the UK, recording CDs, broadcasting, and undertaking major international tours. The choir is directed by the Director of Music, performer and musicologist David Rowland, assisted by the Organ Scholars.

### **Organ Scholarships**

The College normally has two Organ Scholars who assist the Director of Music in running and directing the Chapel choir. Organ scholars may study any subject except Architecture and the College has a history of appointing individuals reading science subjects as well as arts and humanities. The organ scholars are also encouraged to play a full part in other College musical activities through the Music Society, which offers opportunities for orchestral and choral conducting, as well as the chance to perform in chamber recitals, musicals, etc. In addition to the honorarium which an Organ Scholar receives each year, the College pays for organ lessons. Both organ scholars have designated rooms in college that are equipped with pianos and practice organs. The chapel organ has two manuals and pedals and is mechanical throughout. It is said to be by Father Smith (1705). The original pipework survives and the instrument was restored in the 1980's.

### **The Choir and Choral Exhibitions**

Christ's Choir numbers around 23/24, typically 6 sopranos, 5 altos, 4 tenors and 6 basses, almost all of whom are choral exhibitioners. Exhibitioners may read any subject and there are no specific limits on the numbers awarded at the choral trials. As well as the usual honorarium and free meals after services all choir members also benefit from regular vocal training with visiting singing teachers, currently including Alex Ashworth, Richard Edgar-Wilson and Ghislaine Morgan.

### **Weekly Schedule**

The regular weekly schedule of rehearsals and services is as follows:

Wednesday 6.00 - 7.30pm rehearsal

Thursday 5.45 - 6.30pm rehearsal; 6.45pm Evensong

Sunday 4.15 - 5.45pm rehearsal; 6.00pm Evensong

The schedule enables individuals to take part in other activities, such as College and University sports teams, and stage or musical performances. It also accommodates the demands, for example, of science or medical students, who have intensive lectures and practicals timetabled throughout much of the day. Most of the choir are actively involved with the flourishing College Music Society, which offers opportunities for orchestral and choral conducting, as well as the chance to perform in many other concerts, chamber recitals and musicals.

### **Concerts and tours**

The choir has a busy concert schedule. Three or four times a year the choir sings with a professional orchestra at St Martin in the Fields and St John's Smith Square in London; recent performances have included works such as Mozart's *Requiem*, Bach's *Magnificat*, *St. John Passion* and his *B Minor Mass*. Other concerts, mainly, but not exclusively, in the London area are arranged each year. Each summer the choir undertakes a foreign tour. Recent trips include Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Canada. The choir has an extensive concert repertoire including works such as the Bach and Brahms motets, masses by Bach, Mozart, Kodály, extended works by Howells and Britten, and a range of secular music.

### **Broadcasts and Recordings**

Within the last few years the choir and organ scholars have broadcast on a number of occasions for the BBC and for Classic FM. They also have a regular recording schedule, with recent CDs recorded with Regent Records including Music by Howells and Britten (2002), Music by Parry and Stanford (2004), John Blow's church music (2006), Carols by Britten and Leighton (2006), Alessandro Scarlatti and Domenico Scarlatti (2009), Choral works by Sir Philip Ledger (2009), a recording of French Music (2010), German romantic music (2012), carols by Holst, Vaughan Williams and Warlock (2015) and music by a new composer and alumna of the College, Annabel Rooney (2018).

Christ's Choir welcomes enquiries at any time during the academic year from those who would like to audition or learn more about singing in the choir. For more information please contact Professor David Rowland, Director of Music, Christ's College, Cambridge, [choir.admin@christ's.cam.ac.uk](mailto:choir.admin@christ's.cam.ac.uk). <http://www.christs.cam.ac.uk/choir>.

**CHURCHILL COLLEGE**  
**www.chu.cam.ac.uk**

*Inter Alios* is a joint choir between Churchill College, where it serves the ecumenical chapel, and Murray Edwards College, where it hosts a unique Music & Words series featuring non-liturgical choral music alongside poetry and a topical address. The choir sing probably the broadest range of repertoire of any Cambridge choir juxtaposing works from the Anglican choral tradition with those from diverse traditions, with a particular focus on contemporary repertoire. In recent years the choir have premiered many contemporary works, especially by female composers such as Errollyn Wallen, Stef Conner, Anna Semple.

*Inter Alios* translates as ‘among others’ and speaks to the collective spirit: inter-faith, inter-collegiate, and international. The choir have collaborated with the Woolf Institute and Jewish choirs of London and Cambridge to host interfaith Abrahamic services.

**Organ & Choral scholarships**

Churchill offers two endowed organ scholarships which are intended to overlap by at least one academic year in order to assist the senior organ scholar during their final year of study. Each scholar receives an annual bursary of £450, a further £250 towards music lessons, and has a college room with a piano set aside for them. The scholarships have a relatively light workload: playing for the weekly services and additional college events, and assisting with the administrative running of the choir and its library. Organ scholarships at Churchill can be held for two instead of the usual three years by special advance arrangement on academic grounds. The modest 1973 organ has an electrical key & 21-stop action across the two manuals and pedals, with broad a tonal range across seven extended ranks of pipes.

Churchill offers at least four Choral Awards (Murray Edwards has another four) which include: standard University £100 award; additional money towards singing lessons and termly free Formal Hall at both colleges.

Organ and choral scholars take on leadership roles within the choir as suits their interests and abilities, all with the tutelage of the Director of Music. These might include directing rehearsals; composing arrangements or new works for services; arranging the choir’s social schedule and excursions.

**Music at Churchill**

Churchill College has impressive modern facilities for music, including a purpose-built music centre (2007) with a recording studio; a Steinway Grand piano (model B); a French, two- manual harpsichord made for the College by David Rubio in 1983; a Yamaha (model C) in Chapel; and pianos in most social areas in college. In addition to chapel music, we have a lively chamber music scene ranging from baroque consorts to rock bands, and the highly-regarded Churchill Jazz Band: <http://www.churchilljazzband.com/>. Churchill students also contribute to a joint orchestra run with our neighbouring colleges ‘Orchestra on the Hill’ <http://www.orchestraonthehill.co.uk/>

Churchill runs its own internal music awards, with a particularly generous range bursaries for its most accomplished and active musicians in any style which are also open to Organ and Choral scholars.

**Time commitment**

Thursday	17:30 – 18:30	rehearsal
Sunday	16:00 – 17:30	rehearsal
	17:45 – 18:45	service (sometimes followed by Formal Hall)

*Inter Alios* alternate performances at Churchill and Murray Edwards. Further to this schedule the choir sing for termly Formal-Hall or feasts at both colleges (with gastronomic reward) and each year they feature at least one major concert performance with orchestra & soloists, which have included the Mozart & Fauré *Requiems*, Bach *Magnificat*, and Vivaldi *Gloria*. The choir has a growing discography and makes frequent video and audio recordings for release online. The choir increasingly make excursions to sing in Cathedrals around the country and deliver an annual performance in London’s renowned St Martins in the Fields as part of the Brandenburg Festival.

Dr. Ewan Campbell  
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[www.chu.cam.ac.uk/about/music-rehearsal-and-recording/](http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/about/music-rehearsal-and-recording/)

The Choir of Clare College ([www.clarecollegechoir.com](http://www.clarecollegechoir.com)) has gained a reputation as one of the leading university choral groups in England. Music plays a significant role in the life of Clare College, both instrumentally and chorally. Over the years Clare has produced many respected musical figures such as conductors Sir Roger Norrington, Ivor Bolton, Richard Egarr, Andrew Manze, Dominic Wheeler, Robin Ticciati, Nicholas Collon, and Graham Ross; instrumentalists Margaret Faultless, Stephen Farr, Lesley Hatfield, Daniel Pailthorpe, Ashok Gupta, James McVinnie, Matthew Jorysz, and Elizabeth Kenny; composers William Denis Browne, Cecil Sharp, John Rutter and Martin Suckling, and many singers, including Elin Manahan Thomas, Simon Bailey, Nicholas Mulroy, Alessandro Fisher, and Dominic Sedwick to name but a few. The Choir exists primarily to sing regular choral services in the College Chapel, and also maintains a busy external schedule with regular concert and festival appearances in the UK and abroad, radio and television broadcasts, at least two major international tours each year, and commercial recordings for the Harmonia Mundi label. The College's Director of Music is conductor and composer Graham Ross ([www.grahamross.com](http://www.grahamross.com)), himself an alumnus of the College.

### **External appearances**

The Choir has appeared twice at the *BBC Proms* (the first Oxbridge mixed choir ever to do so), and frequently performs with the world's leading orchestras and conductors, including Beethoven *Symphony No. 9* with Richard Tognetti and the Australian Chamber Orchestra, Berlioz *Messe Solennelle* with Sir John Eliot Gardiner and the Monteverdi Choir in Paris, Handel *Messiah* and Bach *Christmas Oratorio* with Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment with Graham Ross, Handel *Messiah* with René Jacobs and Freiburg Baroque Orchestra, Mozart *Mass in c* with Ivor Bolton in Munich and at the Salzburg Festival, Elgar *The Dream of Gerontius* with Edward Gardner and Sir Mark Elder and the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Mahler *Symphony No. 8* with Vladimir Jurowski and the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Bernstein *Chichester Psalms* with Graham Ross and the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, Handel anthems with Lars Ulrik Mortensen and the European Union Baroque Orchestra, and Schutz *Christmas Story* with Sir Roger Norrington. In addition to overseas touring, the Choir has performed in all the major concert halls of the UK, with regular appearances in London at the Southbank Centre, Royal Albert Hall, St John's, Smith Square and Cadogan Hall.

### **Tours and recordings**

The Choir tours extensively every year, with performances in recent years across Europe, the USA, Canada, Mexico, Australia, Japan, China, Russia, Singapore, Macau, Hong Kong and Malaysia. It has produced an impressive collection of best-selling CD recordings for many record labels, including a highly-praised nine-volume series of Music for the Church Year on the Harmonia Mundi label, works by Arvo Pärt, Pēteris Vasks and James MacMillan (No. 2 in the UK Classical charts and No. 6 in the US Billboard charts), a disc of works by Imogen Holst (winner of a *Diapason d'Or* award, *Le Choix de France Musique* Award and a *Gramophone* Award nomination), *Messiah* for Harmonia Mundi, *Palestrina Motets* for EMI, *Illumina* for Collegium (winner of *Gramophone* Award), and a wide discography on the Naxos label, including music by John Rutter (Naxos No. 1 in Classical charts), Stainer, Tavener, S. S. Wesley, and Vaughan Williams.

### **Repertoire**

The repertoire sung in Chapel is extremely wide-ranging, from early Renaissance to present day. The Choir has commissioned many new works, and in recent years has given world première performances of works by John Tavener, Tarik O'Regan, Brett Dean, John Rutter, Giles Swayne, Matthew Martin, Alexander Raskatov, Nico Muhly, Cecilia MacDowall, Toby Hession, Graham Ross, Anna Semple, Seán Doherty, and Joshua Pacey. Often services or concerts involve other instrumentalists, including Bach Cantatas with the period instruments, Mozart and Schubert Masses with string ensembles, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* with organ, harp and percussion, and James MacMillan's *Seven Last Words from the Cross* with string ensemble. External performances in addition offer a wide range of secular music. The College also holds its own Chamber Music and Carol Composition Competitions. The Choir webcasts its Chapel services on the Choir website, and gives frequent broadcasts for BBC Radio 3, Classic FM, and BBC Television.

### **Choral and Organ Scholarships**

Up to around twenty-eight choral scholarships and two organ scholarships may be awarded at any one time. The Choir sings three Choral Evensongs per week during Term, on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays, and in addition sings Complines and occasional special services, such as the annual performance of a *Requiem* on All Souls' Day, the Ash Wednesday Eucharist and the popular Advent Carol Services. Each service is preceded by a rehearsal; extra rehearsals are arranged as necessary. No religious commitment is required, though the Choir is expected to lead the spoken parts of the liturgy. A good level of sight-reading is advantageous, but not essential. Students from all backgrounds and from any school are encouraged to apply, and at Clare there are no subject restrictions for academic study for choral and organ scholars. Organ scholars work closely with Graham Ross, the Director of Music, and are encouraged to sing with and given regular opportunities to conduct the Choir. Choral and Organ Scholars can expect approximately five or six weeks of their vacations each year to be devoted to external commitments. Advance notice of commitments for the forthcoming year is published each October.

Members of the Choir are expected to participate fully in the Choir's schedule, including concerts, tours, broadcasts, and recordings, and to support the choral activities of the College Music Society.

### **Regular weekly schedule**

Tuesdays and Thursdays: 4.55pm rehearsal, 6.15pm service

Wednesdays: 6–7pm rehearsal

Sundays: 3.30–5.30pm rehearsal (with tea), 6pm service, 7.15pm drinks, 7.30pm Dinner in Great Hall (free of charge to Choir members)

### **Benefits of a scholarship at Clare**

In addition to the wealth of experience and opportunities offered throughout three years of a Scholarship, all Choral and Organ Scholars at Clare receive free singing lessons from the College's respected teachers, who include Nicola-Jane Kemp, Robert Rice and Helen Groves. Organ Scholars receive free tuition from James McVinnie (formally St Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey) and harpsichord tuition from Douglas Hollick, as well as from visiting professors and teachers. The College's Masterclass Series gives the opportunities for many instrumental and vocal classes, free of charge to all students. Recent artists have included The Schubert Ensemble, Ann Murray, Michael Chance, Andrew Staples, Roderick Williams and Roger Vignoles. The Choir organises regular social events, and all scholars dine free of charge in Hall after Sunday Evensong. College Feasts take place regularly throughout the year, at which Choral Scholars regularly sing and dine with guests, free of charge. Tours are always free to members of the Choir, who are always provided with accommodation and food or with generous *per diems*.

### **Organs and keyboards at Clare**

Clare Chapel has two organs in regular use. The main two-manual Rudolf von Beckerath (1971) organ (refurbished by Hans-Ulrich Erbslöh (2003) has a mechanical key and pedal (tracker) action with electric drawstop and piston action (range: Manuals C-g3 (56 notes), Pedals C-g1 (32 notes)), with a radiating and concave pedal board and console design by Noel Mander, London. The College also has a fully-functioning chamber organ by John Snetzler (1755), acquired from John Bibby of Winchester in 1985, and restored in 2016. Previously it is known to have been in the Mission Church of St James, Heysham, Lancashire, and before that it was in the collection of the nineteenth-century musicologist, J Fuller Maitland, of Borwick Hall near Carnforth. At one time it was in Shaw House near Newbury. The compass of the organ is from GG(no #) to f3, 58 notes, with a shifting movement (to reduce the number of sounding stops) and a primitive 'nag's-head' swell, enclosing the Hautbois. The pitch is slightly less than a semitone below concert pitch (A = circa 423), and is often used to accompany the choir in early repertoire. In addition the Chapel has a fine two-manual Rubio harpsichord used regularly in early liturgical repertoire and in performances at Clare. In addition to a wide selection of pianos around the College, the Chapel has a Steinway upright piano for use in rehearsals and in recitals.

### **Meeting the Director of Music**

Graham Ross is always happy to meet and hear prospective choral and organ scholars informally at any point throughout the year, to give them the opportunity to hear the Choir rehearse and perform, and to help answer any questions they may have about the application and audition process, and to help decide if a Choral or Organ Scholarship at Clare is right for them. Appointments can be made by contacting:

Mr Graham Ross, Director of Music  
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 [www.clarecollegechoir.com](http://www.clarecollegechoir.com)

 [@ClareChoir](https://twitter.com/ClareChoir)

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 [@choirofclarecollege](https://www.instagram.com/choirofclarecollege)

**CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE**  
[www.corpus.cam.ac.uk](http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk)

Corpus is a beautiful, friendly college in the heart of central Cambridge. It has approximately 250 undergraduates, with a further 200 graduates at its other campus in Leckhampton: an arts and crafts mansion house set in large mature gardens 15mins walk away from the main College site. Music of all kinds has long been at the heart of the College's life. The College enjoys a distinguished musical tradition, and has produced more than its fair share of notable musicians, including renowned conductors Sir Mark Elder and Sir Richard Armstrong, and church musicians including Boris Ord, Edward Higginbottom, Ryan Wigglesworth, John Bertalot, Tarik O'Regan and Richard Shephard.

### **The College Chapel Choir**

The College Chapel is a graceful and intimate space at the centre of the College with a beautiful, warm acoustic and a large space at the east end suitable for concerts. The College choir (numbering about 20 singers) sings three weekly services: Choral Mass and Choral Evensong on Sundays and a Choral Evensong on Wednesdays. Our repertoire is wide and inclusive, combining much-loved traditional cathedral music with contemporary and innovative compositions. There is a particular emphasis on: twentieth century British church and organ music, which particularly suits our 1968 Mander Organ; verse anthems/services from the seventeenth and eighteenth century, taking advantage of our intimate acoustic and fabulous Lammermuir chamber organ and neglected British music, particularly from the period 1875 - 1975, which reflects the research interests and expertise of Director of Music: Nicholas Danks. The Choir are also, from time to time, involved with making CD recordings and BBC Radio broadcasts.

### **Choir Concerts and Tours**

The Chapel Choir has a long tradition of making annual summer singing trips abroad which have, in previous years, included: the USA, New Zealand, Singapore, Istanbul, Milan, Paris and Amsterdam. Cathedral residencies are also a regular feature of choir life, including Westminster Abbey and Durham, Canterbury and St Edmundsbury Cathedrals. We also give several concerts during the academic year, not only in College itself but also in the several churches around East Anglia with historic links to Corpus and venues in central London.

### **Organs and pianos**

Corpus College Chapel houses a fine, large and versatile three-manual organ built by NP Mander in 1968 which was a ground-breaking instrument for its time. It can accommodate a wide range of repertoire and is particularly suited for Baroque and C20th French and British repertoire and Buxtehude, Bach and their contemporaries. A recent addition to the College Chapel is a beautiful three-stop chamber organ by Lammermuir Organs of Scotland, ideal for continuo and period repertoire accompaniment. The College also has several notable pianos, including an excellent Model D Steinway in the Chapel; a Yamaha grand piano in the College's Lecture Theatre and a newly restored two-manual Goble harpsichord. There are practice rooms available to students for private study and tuition.

### **Organ Scholars**

The Director of Music has overall responsibility for the direction of the Chapel Choir and the choice of repertoire, but the organ scholars are very much encouraged to be involved with all of this and to contribute ideas and suggestions. The organ scholars provide the majority of the organ accompaniment to Chapel services as well as taking a leading role in the organisation and promotion of College music in general. For those interested there is plenty of opportunity to direct and rehearse the Chapel Choir. Scholars receive intensive training and support during their time at the College. The College pays for organ tuition, as well giving an annual stipend, and the organ scholars are traditionally accommodated in some of the best undergraduate rooms in Corpus each with a grand piano.

### **Choral Scholars**

Choral Award Holders, appointed through the Inter-Collegiate Scheme, are provided with an annual stipend, and all members of the choir receive regular tuition (currently four lessons a term) with one of our professional teachers and are also invited to Formal Hall every Sunday evening as guests of the College. Whilst appointments to the choir are also made to the choir in October, Choral Awards are only made through the Inter-Collegiate Scheme. A good level of sight-reading is advantageous, but not essential, and the ability to learn quickly is a vital part of life in any Cambridge College choir. The Director of Music is very happy to meet prospective singers at any time to offer guidance and advice.

### **Regular weekly choir schedule**

Wednesdays 5pm rehearsal, 6.45pm Evensong

Fridays 5.15 - 6.30pm rehearsal

Sundays: 9am rehearsal, 10am Choral Eucharist; 4.40-5.40pm rehearsal, 6pm Choral Evensong, 7.15pm drinks, 7.30pm Formal Dinner in Hall (free to choir members and organ scholars)

The **Director of Music** is the Nicholas Danks. Nicholas was himself an undergraduate and organ scholar at Corpus before moving to London for 12 years as Organist and Director of Music at the Royal Parish Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields in Trafalgar Square where he played for and directed the Choir in many BBC Radio and TV broadcasts and was involved in bringing to premiere performance commissions from, among others, Sir John Tavener, Arvo Pärt, Cecilia McDowall and John Dankworth. He returned to Corpus in 2008 and is now a Fellow of the College and the academic Director of Studies in Music alongside his Musical Directorship. Nicholas also directs the St Paul's Knightsbridge Festival Choir and the Wadebridge Choral Society. Nicholas is always delighted to hear from anyone wishing to be involved in music at Corpus and to welcome them when visiting the college. Anyone wishing to get in touch should, in the first instance, email him at ned1000@cam.ac.uk

Contact details:

Mr Nicholas Danks, Fellow and Director of Music

Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, CB2 1RH

email: ned1000@cam.ac.uk

<https://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/about-corpus/chapel/chapel-music-and-choir>

 [@CorChrMusic](https://twitter.com/CorChrMusic)

 [@choircorpus](https://www.facebook.com/choircorpus)

### **The Chapel and the organ**

The Chapel is a beautiful space with a stunningly good acoustic, making it a superb venue for choral and chamber music. It was completely refurbished in 2015, when a new highly-acclaimed two-manual organ built for us by Kenneth Tickell and Company was installed.

### **Choral services**

Choral Evensong takes place in Downing College Chapel on every Sunday evening during Full Term, providing the main focus for the work of the Organ Scholars and Choir. The service is followed by Formal Hall, a candlelit dinner at which the Organ Scholars, Choir, members of the congregation, preacher and the Chaplain eat together. The Choir sings the College Grace at the start of the dinner. The Choir also sings the late evening service of Compline on two Thursdays each term at 10 pm. The Choir is involved in other events during the year which are significant occasions in the life of the whole College. The two most popular services are the Advent Carol Service and the Commemoration of Benefactors. The Choir may be invited to sing at weddings and memorial services. Downing College Chapel has a fine library of over one thousand choral works and provides an ample budget for its maintenance and expansion.

### **Organ Scholarships**

Downing College is unique in having a very active choral tradition directed by the two Organ Scholars who share the conducting and playing duties.. In October 2018 David Lowe (a noted singing teacher and conductor) was appointed Director of Chapel Music to act as mentor to the Organ Scholars. Working with the Chaplain, Revd Dr Keith Eyeons, and Director of Music, the Scholars have a high degree of influence over the choice of music for choral services, and the opportunity to plan tours to other countries. An Organ Scholarship at Downing is a significant position of leadership, and the College seeks to appoint talented musicians who can show the potential and the enthusiasm to direct the Choir effectively. In return, the Organ Scholars receive £450 per year and funding for organ and singing lessons. Organ Scholars also receive a free dinner at Formal Hall on Sunday evenings and are invited to join the Chaplain and Chapel Wardens for a free lunch on Wednesdays. They receive money towards the cost of the annual tour. Organ Scholars study various different subjects and go on to many different kinds of work. In recent years, they have included students of Medicine, Law, Natural Sciences, Engineering and Music. For those who wish, an Organ Scholarship at Downing College can be the start of a career in church music. Previous Downing Organ Scholars include Andrew Millington (Exeter Cathedral), Carl Jackson (Hampton Court Palace), Martin Baker (Westminster Cathedral), Benjamin Saunders (Leeds Cathedral) and David Pipe (York Minster).

### **Choral Awards**

Downing College participates in the Inter-Collegiate Choral Award Scheme, giving awards worth £100 per year to 12 members of the Choir. In addition, everyone in the Choir receives free candlelit dinners in Formal Hall after Sunday services, free singing lessons, and a subsidy towards the annual overseas tour. There is also an enjoyable programme of social events. Recent overseas summer tours have included visits to China and Canada. There are also usually one or two visits to sing Choral Evensong in English cathedrals each year. A typical week in the life of the Choir includes a rehearsal on the Thursday evening and a rehearsal and service on the Sunday evening. The only weekday services in Downing College are the two Complines each term, so singing takes up less of people's time than it does in most other chapel choirs. It is common for Cambridge students to struggle to find time for all the activities they wish to be involved in, so the Downing approach is appreciated by those who wish to sing to a high standard but with fewer time commitments each week. There are usually about 20 to 25 singers in the Choir, including those who have applied through the Inter-Collegiate Choral Award Scheme, and others who have attended auditions held in Downing early in the Michaelmas Term. The Director of Chapel Music is always happy to answer questions about any of these matters, and visits from potential applicants are very welcome.

### **Further Information:**

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**EMMANUEL COLLEGE**  
**www.emma.cam.ac.uk**

Emmanuel is one of the larger Cambridge colleges, with around 450 undergraduates, a fine campus in the centre of town, and a chapel designed by Christopher Wren. Renowned for its combination of academic achievement with relaxed atmosphere, it also has an active musical life, in which the chapel plays a central role.

### **Choral Awards**

The Choir of Emmanuel College accepts applications from men and women both for Choral Awards through the March trials, and for places allocated at the start of the academic year. The Choir numbers around twenty-five people, who sing weekly services on Thursday and Sunday during Full Term. Compline is sung twice termly (by smaller groups from within the choir).

The Choir is directed by Peter Foggitt ([www.peterfoggitt.com](http://www.peterfoggitt.com)), himself a former professional singer and sometime Choral Scholar at King's College, who maintains a busy performing career as a conductor, pianist, and organist, and is reading for a PhD in Composition. He is assisted by the two Organ Scholars, and by a student on the MMus in Choral Studies course.

### **Weekly schedule**

Tuesday	17.15—18.45	Rehearsal
Thursday	16.45—17.45	Rehearsal
	18.00—18.45	Eucharist
Sunday	16.30—17.45	Rehearsal
	18.00—19.00	Evensong, with hymns and sermon, followed by drinks in the Dean's rooms and Formal Hall (19.30)

### **Special services, concerts, and tours**

The Choir sings at the Commemoration of Benefactors and other College events throughout the year. Regular visits are made to other churches and cathedrals: in collaboration with the College's Schools Liaison team, plans this year include a three-day outreach visit to Sheffield Cathedral and various schools in the area.

In recent years the Choir has also joined forces with the University Musical Society (CUMS) to perform Elgar's *The Kingdom* in King's College Chapel and Mahler's Second Symphony in Ely Cathedral. It has also given performances of Bach's *St John Passion*, Mozart's *Requiem*, Haydn's *The Creation* and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony at the Barbican alongside students from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and the Royal Northern College of Music with the Academy of Ancient Music. The Choir also joined forces with the Proms Youth Choir for a performance of Britten's *War Requiem* at the Albert Hall.

Concert plans for this year include Verdi *Requiem* at the Hampstead Arts Festival (with the professional Choir of Hampstead Parish Church, and Orpheus Sinfonia), a tour to the East Coast of the USA (via Iceland), and a return visit to the Brandenburg Choral Festival at St Martin-in-the-Fields. Tours are generously subsidised by the College, and organised by professional tour companies, and have most recently included Italy, Mexico, and Thailand.

### **Benefits of Choral Awards at Emmanuel**

Choral Awards carry with them the standard University award of £100 per year, and all members of the choir receive free Formal Hall on Sundays, free singing lessons with a superb singing teacher — Berty Rice — and regular choral and vocal workshops with outstanding visiting artists. Members of the choir can study any academic subject. Although the level of time commitment is relatively low, the choir sings to a high standard, covering the full range of repertoire from plainsong to twenty-first century, and the choir enjoys a happy social life.

### **Organ Scholarships**

Emmanuel has a fine tradition of organ scholars who have gone on to a wide variety of careers, including not just the cathedral/collegiate world (where alumni include Peter Wright, Organist of Southwark Cathedral, Edward Jones, University Organist and Choirmaster at Harvard University, and Joseph Fort, Director of Music at King's College London) but also concert careers as an organist or on some other instrument, teaching, lecturing and even banking. There are normally two organ scholars in residence at any one time. The Director of Chapel Music and organ scholars work closely together to recruit and train the choir, plan repertoire, organise tours and recordings.

Most Emmanuel organ scholars read for a degree in music, as one of three or so music students that the college typically admits each year, but this is not obligatory: with the exception of Land Economy, any degree can in principle be combined with the organ scholarship. It carries with it an award of £450 per year, free organ lessons with

any teacher, optional singing lessons, an entertainment allowance for choir parties and a substantial rent rebate (33% as Junior Organ Scholar, 67% as Senior); extras such as weddings carry additional fees. The Senior Organ Scholar occupies a fine set of rooms in Front Court and both scholars have pianos provided in their rooms. The greatest perk, though, is the College's organ, a beautiful three-manual instrument in the gallery of the Wren chapel. It was entirely rebuilt in 1988 by Kenneth Jones, using the original seventeenth-century Father Smith case. It has superbly responsive tracker action and an excellent tonal range which makes it one of very few instruments in Cambridge which can do proper justice to the full range of organ repertoire and choral accompaniments.

### **Music at Emmanuel**

Emmanuel has a thriving Music Society which runs a college orchestra, choral society and jazz band, termly concerts and weekly recitals of solo and chamber music. As well as several music practice rooms, the College has two excellent performance spaces, the sixteenth-century Old Library (with a Bösendorfer grand piano) and the concert hall in the Queen's Building (with a Steinway model B grand and a two-manual harpsichord). A special fund is available to support practical music in College, for instance to help with the cost of putting on concerts.

### **Futher information**

Visit [www.emma.cam.ac.uk](http://www.emma.cam.ac.uk) and follow links to the 'Chapel' section, as well as to the 'Undergraduate Prospectus' to find out more about Emmanuel's rich academic and social life. If you have further questions, or would like to discuss a prospective application, please contact the Director of Music, Dr Christopher Whitton ([clw36@cam.ac.uk](mailto:clw36@cam.ac.uk)), or the Acting Director of Chapel Music, Dr Adam Mathias ([adammathias@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adammathias@hotmail.co.uk)).

The Choir is always delighted to receive visits from prospective members, either at services in Cambridge or at events further afield.

Fitzwilliam College's beautiful and multi-award winning Chapel dates from the early 1990s and is a calming, light wooden space designed to reflect the shape of a floating ship in which the organ case represents the sail. A great glass window provides a breathtaking view of the College's immense plane tree, and the resulting presence in Chapel of the changing seasons brings something very special to the meditative rhythm of collegiate worship. The Chapel boasts superb acoustics, making singing here a real joy. The robed choir consists of 18-24 undergraduate and graduate students, both male and female; most are members of Fitzwilliam College. The Director of Music is Catherine Groom. The repertoire is varied and diverse.

### **Services and other commitments**

Sung Evening Prayer (with introit, versicles and responses, psalmody, setting, anthem and hymnody) takes place each Sunday of Full Term at 6.30pm. It is preceded by a rehearsal 4.15-5.45pm (and the all-important biscuit break) and followed by a supper for choir and congregation in the Fellows' Parlour. The choir rehearses on Thursdays from 6.30-7.30pm. This is followed once a term by a choral service of Compline and once a term by a service of Taizé-style worship. On these and other Thursdays, the choir will generally make a subsequent trip to Fitz Bar for early evening conversation and company. There are occasional additional special services, particularly around Advent and Lent, and the choir sings Grace for various collegiate functions during the year. By tradition, each Organ Scholar composes a Grace setting during his/her senior year. The informal College communion services celebrated each Sunday morning at 9.30am offer an opportunity for singers to offer sacred solo arias and duets as and when they wish.

The choir provides the chorus for the in-house Fitzwilliam Chamber Opera's annual fully-staged performances (2019 Mozart *The Marriage of Figaro*; 2021 Mozart *Così fan tutte*) and suitably qualified members sing principal roles. This chorus work is rehearsed-for in a fairly intensive block of a fortnight preceding the performances in early May.

In addition, the choir performs in 2-3 concerts per term, both formal and informal, for some of which additional rehearsals are scheduled. Recently, these have included Catalan music in honour of Visiting Fellow Sr. Josep Carreras; Bernstein with Sir Humphrey Burton CBE; Beethoven's 9<sup>th</sup> Symphony at West Road Concert Hall with several other Cambridge College choirs and Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius* for Hampstead Arts Festival with the Choir of Emmanuel College.

The choir tours every 1-2 years depending on location and cost, and will visit Rome in summer 2021. It sings occasional visiting evensongs at UK cathedrals and 'joint' evensongs with other Cambridge choirs. An annual joint evensong takes place with Fitzwilliam's Oxford sister College, St. Edmund Hall, alternately 'home' and 'away'.

The choir will next record a CD in January 2021.

Thus the weekly commitment is relatively low in the context of Cambridge's choral landscape, enabling singers to do many other things (our singers are to be found everywhere from the University Basketball Team to the Gilbert & Sullivan Society) but the rewards in musical and social terms are great. Commitments are published to the choir well in advance. The Chaplain is supportive of the choir's endeavours and the atmosphere is exceptionally welcoming.

### **Scholarships**

Fitzwilliam College has 1-2 Organ Scholars in residence at any one time, working with the Director of Music and receiving a scholarship of £450. There is provision for an Organ Trainee position for a suitable candidate, and there is a Conducting & Musical Leadership Scholarship which may be linked to the Chapel where there is a suitable candidate. There are up to eight Choral Scholarships, each attracting the standard £100 honorarium. Singing lessons are provided for singers and Organ Scholars. Coaching, organ lessons and conducting lessons are provided for the Organ Scholars. There are additional meal benefits for all members, and subsidies for touring. There are no subject restrictions.

### **Instruments**

The Chapel organ is a fine Peter Collins instrument, kept well-maintained. The Chapel also houses a Bechstein grand piano and a harpsichord. The Auditorium, an excellent concert venue, houses a Steinway grand piano and a fine Goble double-manual harpsichord. In addition, there are two further grand pianos, two further harpsichords, two practice organs, a harmonium, a musical composition station, a drum kit and several other upright and digital pianos to be found in the College's excellent practice facilities, which include rooms suitable for the practising of chamber music. All Organ Scholars and Music Tripos students are provided with digital pianos in their rooms.

**Musical life at Fitzwilliam**

Fitzwilliam boasts an exceptionally rich musical life. Around sixty concerts per year (around twenty per term) take place in College. These range from concerts by professional musicians of the highest calibre, in all genres, down to weekly relaxed and informal student recitals, via myriad strands of musical activity: graduate music and poetry salons, ceilidhs, cross-cultural improvisation, lecture-recitals, Gin & Jazz evenings in the bar, chamber music coaching, musical theatre evenings and much, much more. The Director of Music, Catherine Groom, aims to facilitate student music-making and musical appreciation to the maximum possible extent, and a great deal of assistance is given to students wishing to put on concerts. 'House' ensembles in addition to the Chapel Choir include the Fitz Barbershop (all-male *a cappella*), the Fitz Sirens (all-female *a cappella*), Fitz Swing, Fitzwilliam Chamber Opera, a fledgling Musical Theatre Society and a great many chamber groups. The Orchestra-on-the-Hill and the Hill Chorus offer additional conducting opportunities.

**Contact**

The Director of Music, Catherine Groom, is always delighted to hear from prospective Organ and Choral Scholars. She can be contacted using [music@fitz.cam.ac.uk](mailto:music@fitz.cam.ac.uk).

**Girton Chapel Choir** sings three services per week and has, over the past fifteen years, emerged as one of the most distinguished mixed-voice choirs in Cambridge, a distinction confirmed by the prizes it won in the 1999 Takarazuka International Competition in Japan and the 2007 Spittal International Competition in Austria. In the former, the choir won the Gold Medal in the mixed chorus division and the Grossmann Prize, awarded by the conductor of the Vienna Boys' Choir to the ensemble deemed to produce the best sound; in the latter, Girton Choir won third prize out of ninety choirs from across the globe. It has won critical acclaim for its recent CD of Portuguese Renaissance polyphony, which received a 5\* review from *Choir & Organ* magazine in July 2018; a new CD of music by Palestrina and Ingegneri is due for release in early 2019. The choir, which has approximately 24 members, is comprised of choral scholars and a small number of volunteers drawn from several Cambridge colleges.

**Tours:** The ensemble undertakes an ambitious touring schedule; recent ventures have included concerts in Israel & Palestine, Portugal, Canada, Hong Kong, the U.S.A., Slovakia, Spain, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Mexico (at the invitation of the Bishop of Mexico), Singapore, (at the closing ceremony of the National University's centenary celebrations), Malaysia, Thailand (a concert for the UN specially approved by the then Secretary General, Kofi Annan), Australia, Japan, the Czech Republic, Italy (performing for Pope John Paul II), Germany and France. Shorter domestic tours take place every term. These frequently involve deputising for the cathedral choirs in the major foundations; recent venues have included Durham, Norwich, Lichfield, Salisbury, Bristol, Ely, and St Paul's Cathedral.

**Concerts, Recordings, and Services:** The choir has collaborated with several leading professional ensembles, including the London Mozart Players (in concerts at St John's Smith Square and Goldsmith's Hall) and Xacona, winners of the Bruges Early Music Competition, as well as the Collegium Musicum (the University's Baroque orchestra), and His Majesty's Sagbutts and Cornetts. The choir also works regularly with guest directors including, in recent years, Judith Clurman (formerly Head of Choral Studies at the Juilliard School in New York), Sir David Willcocks, Dr Christopher Robinson, and David Lowe. Several recordings have been made in recent years for the BBC, Priory Records, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, and for a variety of radio and television networks in the Far East. The choir currently records for the *Toccata Classics* label with whom they are about to release their third CD in as many years. The choir's primary role, however, is to sing for the chapel services, typically Evensong on Sundays, Compline on Tuesdays, Vespers on Fridays, and Choral Eucharist on weekday festivals, as well as participating in joint services with other college choirs thereby allowing choir-members to experience the wider Cambridge choral scene, meet other singers, and appreciate some of the finest architecture Cambridge has to offer.

**Regular Schedule and Repertoire:**

Sunday: 16:00 rehearsal, 17:30 Evensong

Tuesday: 20:00 rehearsal, 21:00 Compline (usually dividing the choir into smaller sections, thereby reducing workload)

Wednesday: 18:00-19:20 rehearsal

Friday: 18:00 rehearsal, 18:50 Vespers

The choir's repertoire is varied and distinctive, ranging from Byrd to Britten, but with a particular emphasis upon early music and contemporary choral literature. Recent highlights have included several first performances, the English première of Leighton's *Hymn to Matter* and the first performance of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis by Nico Muhly, assistant to Philip Glass, as well as works by Jonathan Rathbone, J.A.C. Redford, and Gareth Wilson. There is also ample opportunity for student composers to have their work performed by the Choir or other College musicians.

**Choral Scholarships:** Girton College is prepared to elect up to eight Choral Scholars each year. Holders of Choral Awards are expected to sing in the Chapel Choir and to take an active part in the musical life of the College. Though standards are high, a Choral Scholarship at Girton involves a relatively light time commitment; singing in Girton Choir is therefore perfectly compatible with studying the more onerous subjects, such as Medicine and Veterinary Medicine, and the resulting mix of subjects helps make the choir socially rich and diverse. The College contributes generously to the choir's activities: domestic tours cost choir members nothing, and international tours are heavily subsidised. And, in addition to scholarships and bursaries to pay for singing lessons (awarded by competition), choir members receive free dinner after evensong on Sundays and free refreshment after Compline on Tuesdays.

**The Role of the Organ Scholars:**

As noted above, the Director of Chapel Music has the principal responsibility for the running of the choir. The organ scholars' main duty is that of accompanying. However, a flexible approach to the division of work encourages them to gain as much conducting experience as they wish; this naturally varies according to the individual, but does allow the organ scholars to tailor their experience here. Other benefits include the provision of one of the most luxurious rooms in College, with a piano (a Blüthner grand for the senior), a network telephone, and organ lessons with a teacher of your choice, paid for

by the College. The organ scholar is a key member of the College's very active music society, which puts on weekly recitals and termly orchestral concerts. Within this framework there are ample opportunities for conducting and performing, as soloist or accompanist, and new ventures are always supported by the College.

### **The Chapel Organ**

In 2002, Girton College acquired a brand-new, four-manual, mechanical-action organ, constructed by the outstanding Swiss firm, St-Martin, who are famed for their work with players as varied as Lionel Rogg and Guy Bovet. The organ was conceived as an all-purpose instrument, equally at home in Baroque, Romantic and more modern repertoire. Frequently chosen for university organ examinations, the Girton organ is widely acknowledged as one of the finest in Cambridge. We celebrated its tenth birthday with a typically diverse programme including organ concertos by Poulenc and Handel, and Bach cantatas and, more recently, have welcomed distinguished recitalists such as David Briggs, Andrew Reid, Steven Grahl, and Daniel Cook.

### **Music at Girton**

Girton enjoys a lively musical life based round a series of weekly recitals given by undergraduates and visiting professionals. The musical environment at the college is particularly rich. In addition to the Director of Music (Martin Ennis who, alongside his academic work, is a professional keyboard player and works with leading ensembles in the UK and overseas) and the Director of Chapel Music (Gareth Wilson, well-known as both conductor and composer, whose works have been performed by the BBC Singers, the choir of St John's, Cambridge, and by the choir of the Chapel Royal at the recent baptism of Prince Louis), there are no fewer than four internationally renowned musicians on the Girton staff. These are: Margaret Faultless, leader of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, and Head of Historical Performance at the Royal Academy of Music in London; Jeremy West, co-founder and director of His Majestys Sagbutts and Cornetts; Andrew Kennedy, winner of the 2005 Cardiff Singer of the Year Competition and now an internationally feted operatic tenor; and Nicholas Mulroy, a leading tenor in the early music field, described as "the most sought after evangelist of his generation" (*The Sydney Morning Herald*).

### **For more information, or to arrange a visit, please contact:**

The Director of Music, Dr Martin Ennis Tel: 01223 338946 [mwe20@cam.ac.uk](mailto:mwe20@cam.ac.uk)

The Director of Chapel Music, Mr Gareth Wilson Tel: 07939 378 759 [nota1cambiata@hotmail.com](mailto:nota1cambiata@hotmail.com)

The choir have an active Facebook page, "The Chapel Choir of Girton College, Cambridge – UK", and tracks from their most recent recordings can be found under "Girton Choir" on Youtube.

**Caius ('Keys') Choir** sings three services each week during term and maintains a busy schedule of other activities including concerts, tours, radio and TV broadcasts, and recordings. The choir consists of 24 student singers (normally 8 Sopranos, 5 Altos, 5 Tenors, 6 Basses) and is directed by the Precentor, Mr Matthew Martin, assisted by two Organ Scholars. In recent years several choir members have gained places to study singing at postgraduate level in London and elsewhere, and recent graduates now have established solo careers or sing with professional choirs such as The Sixteen, Polyphony, Tenebrae, Voces8 and The Monteverdi Choir (as detailed on the website). The chief qualities that are looked for in applicants are commitment, strong vocal potential and sight-reading ability. However, it is recognised that high-level singing opportunities are not always available at school and applicants with relatively little experience to date should not feel discouraged from applying. Choral awards are open to all voices (including both male and female altos) and are compatible with reading any subject.

### **Weekly schedule**

Sunday: 5pm rehearsal, 6pm Choral Evensong.

Monday & Wednesday: 6.05-7pm rehearsal.

Tuesday & Thursday: 5.30pm rehearsal, 6.30pm Choral Evensong/Eucharist.

### **Singing Lessons, Finance**

Weekly singing lessons are provided in College free of charge either with one of the three College singing teachers, Kate Symonds-Joy, David Lowe and Elaine Pearce, or with external teachers by arrangement. A library of solo vocal music is available for use in conjunction with lessons. Choir members are strongly encouraged to develop their solo vocal singing during their time at Caius alongside their work for the choir. Fees are normally paid for concerts and broadcasts to supplement the standard £100 choral award. Choir members stay in College free of charge during vacations when undertaking choir activities and tour expenses are covered by the College. In addition, a special fund exists to help singers wishing to take part in occasional master-classes or other vocal opportunities at any time of the year. The Choir Administrator deals with all arrangements for the choir's activities.

### **Radio & Television broadcasts, CD & DVD recordings**

Caius Choir makes regular radio and television broadcasts from venues in Cambridge and elsewhere. Broadcasts of Choral Evensong on BBC Radio 3 have been notably adventurous in content, including a service of music composed entirely by students at Caius, a service of South African music broadcast from Pietermaritzburg in South Africa, and the 40-part motet *Spem in alium* by Thomas Tallis from Waltham Abbey (with former choir members). Two Radio 3 Choral Evensong broadcasts are planned for March 2020. Other BBC work has included various programmes on the radio of both sacred and secular music, and performances on BBC 1, the World Service and Channel 4.

The Choir has made many CD recordings covering a wide range of sacred and secular music and have often specialised in the re-discovery of forgotten choral repertoires, including previously unpublished music, from within the English choral tradition and beyond. Recent releases include a CD of choral works by the leading British composer Judith Weir (BBC Music Magazine's Choral and Song Choice in December 2011), and the ground-breaking disc *In Praise of St Columba; The Sound World of the Ancient Celtic Church* (BBC Music Magazine's Choral and Song Choice in September 2014). Their 2015 release *Romaria: Choral Music from Brazil* includes sacred and secular music from the 1950s through to the present day in a programme developed in conjunction with experts from the music department of the University of São Paulo, followed in 2016 by early English music on *Chorus vel Organa: Music for the Lost Palace of Westminster* which includes music from the Caius Choirbook, a manuscript held in the College with music probably sung at the Royal Palace of St Stephen's, Westminster, in c. 1520. *Set upon the Road*, released in 2017, includes seven newly composed pieces for voices with ancient instruments such as the carnyx, lyre and aulos. Caius Choir released two CDs in 2018: *Julian Anderson Choral Music* (BBC Music Magazine's Choral and Song Choice in September 2018) and *Cantique de Noël; French Music for Christmas from Berlioz to Debussy*. The Choir has also worked with the choirs of St John's and Clare Colleges on a filmed DVD release of music by Francis Poulenc, and with the choir of King's College, Cambridge on a recording of music by John Rutter for EMI. Please see the Choir website for reviews and further details of all the Choir's recordings

### **Tours, Concerts, Repertoire**

The Choir travels abroad at least once each year, singing in major concert halls, universities, cathedrals and churches across Europe and beyond, including South Africa, the USA, South America and Asia. In 2017 the Choir toured the Far East giving concerts in Malaysia, including performances of Beethoven's 9th Symphony with the Malaysian Philharmonic

Orchestra, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore and Mumbai, India. In July 2018 the choir joined the Armonico Consort for their UK tour 'Supersize Polyphony 360'. Some tours involve participation in international choral festivals, such as the European Symposium on Choral Music held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, or the Festival of University Choirs in Valencia, Spain; others involve collaboration with other choirs or orchestras, such as performing Handel's *Solomon* with the Philharmonia Baroque of San Francisco, or providing the chorus for Mozart's *Idomeneo* with Opera Northern Ireland. In recent years the Choir has performed a series of concerts in Bordeaux with the Orchestre National de Bordeaux Aquitaine, singing Haydn's *Creation*, Handel's *Messiah* and J. S. Bach's *St John Passion* and *St Matthew Passion*. The choir also gives a number of concerts during the course of each year, including regular appearances at the Spitalfields Festival in London. Concerts at home or abroad also give the opportunity to sing for top conductors such as Nicholas McGegan or Jane Glover.

Music sung at the regular Chapel services includes a wide range of traditional Anglican repertoire by Byrd, Purcell, Wesley, Howells etc, as well as major Continental Catholic repertoire and a varied diet of less familiar music. The choir also has a strong commitment to contemporary music; it has given the opening concert of the St Pancras Festival of Contemporary Church Music in London, and commissioned works have featured regularly in the liturgical category of the British Composer Awards. Commissioned composers include Julian Anderson, John Kenny, Stuart MacRae, Francis Grier, James MacMillan, Cheryl Frances-Hoad, Gabriel Jackson, Judith Weir, Alexander Goehr, Robin Holloway (a Fellow of Caius), Edward Rushton, and Joel Rust.

### **Organ Scholarships**

The two Organ Scholars are responsible for all organ playing in Chapel and play a full role in the work of the Choir by acting as assistants to the Director of Music. They are also encouraged to take a leading role in the musical life of the College in general. The Chapel organ is a modern mechanical action instrument built in 1981 by Johannes Klais of Bonn. It is a large and versatile three-manual instrument with a full digital sequencer as well as 8 pistons per manual. It contains a few ranks from the earlier Walker organ that provide a soft English core to the sound, and the instrument as a whole is particularly effective in baroque and modern repertoire such as Bach and Messiaen (see website for specification). The Organ Scholars at Caius live in the central part of College for three years: the Junior Organ Scholar has rooms in St Michael's Court with a pedal piano, and the Senior Organ Scholar has rooms in Caius Court with a grand piano. Named Organ Scholarships provide much financial support; in addition to the standard £450 scholarship they receive free room rental and organ lessons. In addition, grants are often available to those wishing to undertake organ courses both in the UK and abroad, or external qualifications (e.g. R.C.O. diplomas). Organ lessons are arranged with leading visiting teachers, and regular help and advice is given by the Precentor, Matthew Martin, who is an organist and former Assistant Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral. Some Organ Scholars spend a gap year in a Cathedral before starting at Caius, whilst others have done so after graduating. Organ Scholars have gone on to make their careers in a wide variety of musical activities, working as freelance conductors, composers, accompanists, répétiteurs and teachers, as well as serving as Cathedral organists. Prospective applicants are welcome to make an appointment to play to Mr Martin ([precentor@cai.cam.ac.uk](mailto:precentor@cai.cam.ac.uk)) at any time during the year.

### **Additional Activities**

The choir also attends and performs at College Feasts (normally six each year), singing a variety of secular music including madrigals, folksong arrangements and close harmony. Choir concerts and services often involve music sung by one voice per part, and two independently-run groups, the Caius Men and the Gonville Girls, undertake extra singing engagements such as performing at May Balls, weddings and conferences. Joint services and concerts with other College choirs also take place from time to time. Besides the work of the choir, music flourishes in the College principally through the activities of the Music Society. Regular chamber music concerts take place in the 98-seater auditorium, which houses a fine model B Steinway concert grand, and there is a College Concert each term in the Hall with large-scale orchestral and choral works, conducted by students. The College participates in the University Instrumental Awards scheme and offers its own College Instrumental Awards, and all members of College can apply for financial assistance with special musical activities. The College has music practice rooms with pianos, and a two-manual harpsichord after Danzelague of 1711.

### **Appointments, Contact details**

Appointments can be made at any time of year to sing or play to Matthew Martin who is also the Director of Studies in Music, and to discuss matters relating to admissions (tel. 01223 332448; e-mail [precentor@cai.cam.ac.uk](mailto:precentor@cai.cam.ac.uk), post Gonville & Caius College, Cambridge CB2 1TA).

For further information, soundclips etc. please see the choir website: [www.gonvilleandcaiuschoir.com](http://www.gonvilleandcaiuschoir.com) and find us on Spotify. Follow us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/caiuschoir](http://www.facebook.com/caiuschoir), Twitter [www.twitter.com/caiuscollegechoir](http://www.twitter.com/caiuscollegechoir) and Instagram: [www.instagram.com/caiuscollegechoir](http://www.instagram.com/caiuscollegechoir)

Homerton is currently home to the highest overall number of students of any Cambridge college, a considerable proportion of whom take part in the College's varied and active music scene. The College boasts an orchestra, a steel pan group, jazz ensembles (Homerton Jazz), and two choirs. Homerton also possesses an eclectic collection of instruments, including a harpsichord, marimba, vibraphone, xylophone, tubular bells, gongs, and a set of timpani. There are three practice rooms on site, available to all students, two of which are state-of-the-art rooms opening in autumn 2020. There are also several grand pianos on site, including a Steinway (model 'O') and several Blüthner instruments. The College currently holds three annual music competitions for its students: one in performance, one in composition, and another in which students can bid for cash to put on a large-scale musical production such as an opera or musical. Although Homerton is technically the newest Cambridge College (gaining its Royal Charter only in 2010), it has existed as an institution since the 18<sup>th</sup> century and in 2018 saw the College celebrate its 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Plans are afoot to build a dedicated performance venue in the College, following the construction of a brand new dining hall in 2021–2022.

Since 2016, Homerton and the Faculty of Music have shared an Ensemble-in-Residence (first the Ligeti Quartet, now the Amatis Trio) who work closely with students in addition to performing in both venues regularly. The wider Fellowship at Homerton includes a College Teaching Officer and Director of Music (Dr Daniel Trocmé-Latter – also an Affiliated Lecturer at the Faculty of Music), a Junior Research Fellow in Music (Dr Ross Cole), and a Bye-Fellow (Dr Min Yen Ong – also a Teaching Associate at the Faculty of Music). Current and former Honorary Fellows of Homerton College include renowned percussionist Dame Evelyn Glennie as well as the former Master of the Queen's Music, the late Sir Peter Maxwell Davies.

### **The Charter Choir**

Homerton is unique in being the only Cambridge College without a chapel to offer both organ and choral awards. The Charter Choir of Homerton College, founded in 2009, sings a weekly Evensong at the Parish Church of St John the Evangelist (opposite the College) as well as going on cathedral visits and an annual international tour. Joint services with other Cambridge choirs are frequently held, and in recent years the choir has also performed twice with the Brandenburg Sinfonia at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. The Charter Choir has two commercial recordings to its name. The latest, *Till all the place with music ring*, was released in 2019, and *Audite Finem*, as featured on BBC Radio 3, was released in 2014. Several clips of the choir can be found on the choir website: [www.homerton.cam.ac.uk/charterchoir](http://www.homerton.cam.ac.uk/charterchoir).

The normal weekly schedule during term-time for the Charter Choir is as follows:

Tuesday	5.15pm–6.15pm	Rehearsal
	6.30pm–7.15pm	Choral Evensong
Friday	5.15pm–7pm	Rehearsal

The Choir also sings in the end-of-term concerts, organised by the Homerton College Music Society (HCMS), and there are also occasional other weekend and weekday commitments, including two carol services and a Choral Eucharist on Ash Wednesday. Although the workload is relatively light, a high standard of music-making is expected.

The Charter Choir comprises up to 20 choral scholars and a number of volunteers (normally undergraduates). In addition to the annual stipend of £100, choral scholars receive a generous further subsidy towards singing lessons, an allowance of which they are expected to make full use. Homerton has two visiting singing teachers, although members of the Choir are free to take lessons with whomever they choose.

After Evensong on a Tuesday, all members of the Choir are invited to join the Fellows and their guests for pre-dinner drinks before dining at Formal Hall free of charge, held in Homerton's impressive Great Hall, the largest of its kind in Cambridge at the time of its construction in 1889.

### **The Organ Scholarship**

There are normally two Organ Scholars at Homerton. The Organ Scholars' main responsibilities are to accompany the Charter Choir at all rehearsals and services, and to help with choir-related administration and general organisation. When no accompaniment is needed, they may be expected to sing with the Choir. They are also given regular opportunities to conduct the Choir, with informal guidance from the Director of Music. Organ Scholars are also expected to take a leading role in other forms of music-making at Homerton.

Organ Scholars each receive a stipend of £450 per annum, as well as free organ lessons with a teacher of their choice. The Senior Organ Scholar may occasionally be asked to play at Sunday morning services or funerals and weddings at St John's Church, for which additional payment is provided. Free Formal Hall is provided after Tuesday Evensong.

The Organ Scholars are accommodated in en-suite rooms in College. The organ at St John's Church (a two-manual Walker instrument) is available as a practice instrument during the church's regular opening hours. In addition, the Organ Scholars are provided with a digital piano in their College room.

Homerton also offers an Accompanist Scholarship. For more details, please contact the Director of Music or visit the Homerton website.

**Further information**

The Director of Music is always pleased to hear from interested choral or organ applicants.

Dr Daniel Trocmé-Latter  
Director of Music  
Homerton College  
Cambridge, CB2 8PH  
+ 44 (0)1223 747171  
[dt267@cam.ac.uk](mailto:dt267@cam.ac.uk)

The Charter Choir website: [www.homerton.cam.ac.uk/charterchoir](http://www.homerton.cam.ac.uk/charterchoir)

Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/homcharterchoir](http://www.facebook.com/homcharterchoir)

The Homerton College Music Society website: [homertonmusicsociety.wix.com/hcms](http://homertonmusicsociety.wix.com/hcms)

Jesus College Choir, which dates back to the foundation of the College in 1496, is a lively and diverse group of singers with an enviable reputation throughout Cambridge and beyond. It is distinctive in that it maintains an adult soprano section, the College Choir, and a group of boy trebles known as the Chapel Choir. The lower voices (regardless of gender) are common to both choirs. Each week in university term the choirs between them provide the music for four services (usually Choral Evensong) in addition to a Sunday morning Eucharist, which is sung by a consort made up of choral scholars. The choirs are directed by Richard Pinel, formerly of St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, who enjoys an international reputation as a concert organist, accompanist and choral director. A Fellow of the College, Richard is also Director of the Edington Festival and a trustee of New Paths Music. Completed in 1245, Jesus Chapel is thought to be the oldest University building still in use. It boasts one of the finest acoustics for music in the city and is home to a vibrant and inclusive community that sits at the heart of the College both figuratively and literally.

### **Choir Activities**

Over the course of any given term, the choir sings a broad repertoire of sacred and secular music, ranging from ancient chant to newly composed works. Outside of this, they enjoy a regular series of concerts, recordings and tours in which they have collaborated with a number of professional orchestras and attracted much critical acclaim. Their recent recording with Britten Sinfonia is due for release in 2021. With regular tours (most recently to South Africa, Romania, Malta, Italy, Hong Kong, France, Sri Lanka, India, Germany, the Ukraine and the USA) and concerts, recordings, and broadcasts, Jesus College Choral Scholars are able to enjoy music-making of an especially high standard, whilst finding time to pursue other interests during their undergraduate careers.

*All tours are fully subsidised and no contribution is expected from choir members.*

The College Choir has developed a unique reputation for international outreach in recent years, running singing workshops with disadvantaged children in South Africa, India and Sri Lanka as part of an ongoing collaboration with charities committed to musical education for children living in poverty.

### **Choral Awards**

All Choral Scholarship applicants are expected to have an attractive and clear voice. Whilst technical ability is preferable, it is understood that the spirit of the scholarship is one of education – *potential is just as important as proven ability*. Good aural and sight-reading skills are required, owing to the range of music covered in a typical term, although, again, it is understood that sight-reading improves through experience. Those with weaker sight-reading skills would ordinarily be expected to spend more time preparing music in advance of rehearsals.

Choral Scholars are expected to make full use of their singing lesson allowance and to prepare music for services and concerts with care. The Director of Music is able to recommend singing teachers - current choral scholars are taught by Helen Groves, David Lowe, Berty Rice and Lyn Alcantara.

Additional benefits include a number of Feasts and dinners at which the choir sings (and is fed and watered) and many parties. The College subsidises the cost of Formal Hall for each service sung. Accommodation during choir commitments outside term is provided free of charge. Whilst both choirs exist primarily to enhance the Anglican worship of the College Chapel, it is not required that those who sing be members of the Church of England, but only that they be prepared to respect the traditions and purpose of the Chapel. Choral scholars study a wide range of subjects – it is possible to combine the commitments of a choral scholarship with any subject in the University with discipline, efficiency, and goodwill – and they are often involved with opera, musical theatre, sport, student politics, and other extra-curricular activities in addition to belonging to the choir. Whilst some have gone on to study postgraduate singing, others have pursued an array of careers across various professions. The cultural, musical, linguistic, and spiritual benefits of a Choral Scholarship are great, and are open for all suitable candidates to enjoy.

The regular term-time schedule is as follows:

Monday 5.20pm – 6.30pm Rehearsal

Tuesday 5.20pm College Choir rehearsal for 6.30pm Evensong

Thursday & Saturday 5.20pm Chapel Choir (boy choristers with altos, tenors & basses) rehearsal for 6.30pm Evensong

Sunday 9am rehearsal for 10am Eucharist (sung by a small consort – every choral scholar sings approx. twice each term)

4.20pm College Choir rehearsal for 6pm Evensong

## Organ Awards

The College usually has two resident Organ Scholars, who play a vital role in Chapel and College life. Many former Organ Scholars have achieved great success in the music profession and the College is pleased to count amongst its alumni famous organists including James O'Donnell, Peter Hurford, Richard Lloyd, Geraint Bowen, and Charles Harrison, and composers Robert Walker and Terence Allbright.

Organ Scholars of Jesus College act as assistants to the Director of Music and have a wide range of responsibilities in the running of the Choir. The Jesus College Organ Scholarship is unique in Cambridge in training organists to work with both boy trebles and with mixed adult voices. The opportunities afforded by this give Organ Scholars an exciting and varied musical education which includes organ-playing roles as accompanist and soloist, regular opportunities to rehearse and direct the choirs, theory teaching responsibilities, and experience in managing and administering a choir. The Choir's frequent concerts and wide repertoire also provide training in continuo playing, while the demand for the Organ Scholars in the wider College music scene gives endless scope for scholarship-holders to explore.

A set of rooms in College is available to each Organ Scholar for the duration of the scholarship, and other benefits (in addition to those given to Choral Scholars) include reduced room rent and unlimited use of the College instruments. Regular organ lessons are provided, free of charge. The Organ Scholars are taught by renowned organists and teachers, Ann Elise Smoot and David Briggs.

Organ Scholarship applicants should aim to have developed organ playing skills to at least ABRSM Grade 8 standard. A number of recent organ scholars have enjoyed gap years, often working in a cathedral environment, but this is by no means essential. We expect to train organists during their time here – potential and enthusiasm are equally as important as proven ability!

## Music in College

The College boasts a vibrant Music Society which hosts termly orchestral concerts and weekly recitals. Many members of the choir play an active part in instrumental ensembles, conducting, orchestral playing and recital performances. Music is highly valued by the whole College community and a number of practice rooms exist for the use of students. The Chapel, which has an attractive acoustic, is home to three organs, a double-manual harpsichord by Bruce Kennedy (after Christian Zell) and a full-size concert grand Steinway piano, which has been used in professional solo recordings by artists such as Barry Douglas. Aside from the Chapel, Jesus College boasts several music practice rooms and a rehearsal room equipped with two grand pianos and a clavichord. Former and current Honorary Fellows of Jesus College include Christopher Hogwood, Peter Hurford, James O'Donnell, Jessye Norman, and Murray Perahia.

**Richard Pinel**, Director of Music, is always happy to meet prospective candidates for Choral Awards, to answer questions and to hear individuals sing or play informally. An appointment can be arranged at any time of year by contacting the Choir Administrator, Ms Alice Kane, on 01223 339 699 or [choir@jesus.cam.ac.uk](mailto:choir@jesus.cam.ac.uk).

[www.jesuscollegechoir.com](http://www.jesuscollegechoir.com)

 [@JesCollChoir](https://twitter.com/JesCollChoir)

 [/jesuschoircambridge](https://www.facebook.com/jesuschoircambridge)

 [@jesuscollegechoir](https://www.instagram.com/jesuscollegechoir)

For 'King's Voices', the College's mixed choir, please see page 22

Founded in the fifteenth century, the Choir of King's College is known for its many concerts, television and radio broadcasts, the varied repertoire it performs, and the distinguished soloists and ensembles with which it regularly performs. On Christmas Eve millions of people worldwide tune into *A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* and nearly two million in this country watch *Carols from King's* on BBC TV. While the Choir exists primarily to sing the daily services in King's College Chapel (Tuesday-Sunday Evensongs and Sunday morning Eucharists or Matins), its global fame and reputation, enhanced by its many recordings, leads to invitations to perform throughout the world.

### Choral Candidates

Despite the Choir's renown, its singers come from many different backgrounds, and it is always worth making an enquiry or application, whatever you (or your school!) think of your own ability. You do not, for example, have to be an ace sight-reader, nor do you have to have had a chorister training. We are more interested in vocal potential – with the emphasis on potential. We are not looking for any particular 'type' of voice any more than we are looking for candidates from a particular school. Recent choral scholars have had many different strengths; some have perfect pitch and excellent musicianship skills, while others have big voices which are clearly going to go on to fill opera houses. Nearly every year King's choral scholars leave Cambridge to take up scholarships on opera courses at the Guildhall, the Royal Academy and the Royal College. The professional music world is full of former King's choral scholars. Among recent graduates, Edward Gardner is Chief Conductor of the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, and Andrew Kennedy won the Lieder Prize in the Cardiff Singer of the Year competition. Patrick Dunachie and Edward Button have joined the King's Singers. Others have very successful careers as instrumentalists: Joe Crouch is principal cellist of the Academy of Ancient Music and Julian Perkins is harpsichordist/director of Sounds Baroque. 'Choral Scholar of King's' on a CV will catch the eye of potential employers in many other fields.

### 'Perks'

King's offers free singing lessons and consultations with professional teachers from many of the conservatoires, as well as language coaching. Fees for 'extras' represent a significant bonus for King's choral scholars, and all associated expenses for concerts and tours, e.g. travel and subsistence, are covered. Additionally the College provides lessons in Alexander Technique. Choral scholars have a piano in their rooms and there is a grant to assist in the purchase of sheet music. Masterclasses are given on many aspects of solo and choral performance: recent instances have included Andreas Scholl on Lieder, the King's Singers on close harmony, the Hilliard Ensemble on renaissance repertoire, Berty Rice on strategies for dealing with nerves in performance, Stephen Varcoe on French and German pronunciation and Ben Parry on close harmony. A number of leading voice teachers visit the College.

### Life in the University Music Scene

King's choral scholars have a high profile in the Cambridge music scene; they have recently taken leads in performances ranging from *Don Giovanni* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to *Guys and Dolls*; they direct shows, conduct operas and put on concerts in a wide variety of musical styles. Some have even been known to collect sporting blues! They form a close-knit group enjoying a good social life. Under the name 'the King's Men', they have a concert and touring programme of their own, which they manage themselves, additionally making recordings on the King's College label, and providing close harmony entertainments at dinners and parties, *à la* King's Singers. A number of their performances are given to support charitable causes, notably the annual visit to Cambridge Addenbrooke's Hospital to sing carols. The King's Men have been honoured to perform alongside high-profile artists from Rapper, Dizzee Rascal to the King's Singers. See <http://www.kingsmencambridge.co.uk>.

### Concerts & Tours

King's offers many unique and exciting choral opportunities. Recent performances have taken the Choir to the Sydney Opera House, Washington National Cathedral, Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam, the National Centre for Performing Arts, Beijing and London's Barbican. Future choir tours are planned for North America and Canada, as well as Asia. The Choir performs its own concert annually in London, appears at all the main festivals in the UK (Cheltenham, York Early Music, Lufthansa, Newbury, and at the Proms) and makes regular appearances at venues such as Symphony Hall, Birmingham and Bridgewater Hall, Manchester. There is a huge discography from EMI and Decca, and more recently from the King's College, Cambridge label.

Daniel Hyde, Organist and Director of Music (choir@kings.cam.ac.uk / tel: 01223 331224), encourages all potential choral scholars to come to see him at any time of the year. There are four countertenors, four tenors and six basses/baritones in the Choir and vacancies usually arise in each section on an annual basis. When you visit, Daniel will hear you sing, talk to you about the Choir and its work, and advise you on how to approach the audition and interview process. Although a number of choral scholars read for the Music Tripos, we encourage applications from those wishing to read any of the other subjects. PLEASE NOTE that it is now possible to read law, engineering and natural sciences at King's. (Medicine and architecture are the only subjects with which a choral scholarship cannot be combined.)

### **Organ Scholarships**

The 'Mann' Organ Scholarship was founded in 1931 in memory of A.H. Mann, College Organist 1876-1929. The Organ Scholar acts as a 'cathedral assistant', playing for services, taking a part in training the choristers and probationers, and rehearsing and conducting the full choir. The four manual Harrison and Harrison organ, which in 2016 underwent a major restoration (no significant tonal alterations were made, but playing aids were updated), is essentially the instrument built by Arthur Harrison in the 1930s, alongside his projects at Westminster Abbey and the Royal Albert Hall. There is also a small chamber organ in Chapel and a tracker-action instrument (two manuals and pedals) available for practice at the College School. The Organ Scholars receive fees for 'extra' performing duties which significantly supplement the student grant and the organ scholarship. The College pays for lessons in organ playing and improvisation, singing and Alexander Technique.

The Organ Scholars accompany the Choir in its touring programme, which affords the opportunity of playing many interesting instruments throughout the world. Recent organ scholars have played the instruments at the Sydney Opera House, the Royal Albert Hall and the Concertgebouw, Amsterdam. The post provides opportunities for continuo-playing, notably with the Academy of Ancient Music and the Philharmonia Orchestra. Usually the Organ Scholar reads for the Music Tripos, but all other subjects can be studied, except Medicine and Architecture.

The Organ Scholarship at King's is a preparation for many different career paths in the musical profession. In the field of cathedral and church music, former organ scholars currently direct the music at Gloucester and Norwich Cathedrals, Trinity College, Cambridge, New College, Oxford, and St George's Chapel, Windsor. A number, such as Sir Andrew Davis and Richard Farnes, have gone into conducting careers, while others, such as Simon Preston, Thomas Trotter, David Briggs, and David Goode, have forged international careers as solo players. More recent holders are to be found in assistant positions at the Cathedrals of St Albans and Westminster.

Daniel Hyde, Organist and Director of Music (choir@kings.cam.ac.uk / tel: 01223 331224), encourages all potential organ scholars to come to see him at any time before the auditions. When they visit, he will hear them play, talk to them about the organ scholar's life and work, and advise them on how to approach the audition and interview process.

### **King's Voices**

King's Voices, the mixed voice choir of King's College, was founded in 1997 to give the women of King's the opportunity to contribute vocally to the musical life of the College and Chapel. The Choir numbers around thirty singers, mostly made up of undergraduates and graduates at King's. The Choir's current Director is Ben Parry, Assistant Director of Music at the College, as well as Artistic Director of the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain. Choral Awards are available to both men and women applying academically to King's – there are no subject restrictions.

The Choir has a regular programme of rehearsals and services and sings Evensong in the Chapel every Wednesday during University term, as well as a termly late-night Compline service on a Thursday. In addition to these services, King's Voices has a regular Monday practice, sings in the College Musical Society's Lent Term and May Week concerts, and performs both sacred and secular music at some of the College's formal occasions. In March 2001, King's Voices went on tour for the first time, taking part in an exchange trip with the University Choir of Cologne. Since then the Choir has visited a European country each year, including, most recently, Italy, Austria, Netherlands, Ireland and Iceland. Nearer to home, the Choir has sung services and concerts in local cathedrals and churches including Ely and St Edmundsbury cathedrals and churches in Suffolk, Norfolk and Richmond, Surrey.

### **Organ scholar**

King's Voices has its own organ scholar, who is recruited each year by audition early in the Lent Term. The King's Voices organ scholar is usually an undergraduate organist at another college.

**Further information is available from:** Ben Parry, Assistant Director of Music, King's College

[ben.parry@kings.cam.ac.uk](mailto:ben.parry@kings.cam.ac.uk)  <https://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/chapel/kings-voices>  @kingsvoicesscam

**MAGDALENE COLLEGE**  
**www.magd.cam.ac.uk**

**Choral Scholarships**

Magdalene College is among the smaller and more intimate colleges, enjoying attractive grounds which extend along the banks of the River Cam on the north side of the city centre. Architecturally, the College has a variety of building styles ranging from mediaeval to contemporary.

The Choir, made up of both Choral Scholars and other members of the College, sings for the two Choral Evensongs each week on Thursdays and Sundays in the candlelit mediaeval chapel, as well as twice-termly services of compline. There is an additional rehearsal on Wednesdays. The Choir is conducted by the Precentor and Director of Music, Mr Graham Walker, who is assisted by the Organ Scholars. Our broad repertoire runs from the early Renaissance to the present day, and we are always keen to perform new works written by members of the Choir.

The Choir makes regular tours. In recent years the choir has toured the USA, South Africa, Italy, Ireland, Devon, the Channel Islands, Malta, Wales, Sweden, Germany, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, Belgium, and Italy. Plans are in development for our first tour to the Far East. The Choir also sings in UK cathedrals, including Westminster, St Paul's, Salisbury, Ely, Norwich, Lincoln, Wells, and Rochester, as well as St Albans and Westminster Abbeys. The Choir has made several recordings, which may be obtained via the College's website, [www.magd.cam.ac.uk](http://www.magd.cam.ac.uk).

The Choir is given a free Formal Hall dinner after each sung evening service, and there is a black tie Christmas dinner after the Advent Carol Service. It is asked to sing at occasional College feasts, including the Pepys Dinner, held on or near Pepys's birthday. Above all, the Choir is very much a social unit as well as a musical ensemble, and we are very proud of the friendly and welcoming nature of the Choir.

Magdalene's Music Society is run by students. Regular concerts take place in College, including a chamber recital series. The College owns several grand pianos, two organs, and a harpsichord; there are three music practice rooms. The Choir sings with the College instrumentalists on occasion. The value of a Choral Scholarship is £100 p.a., as for all Colleges; singing lessons are provided and funded by the College.

**Organ Scholarships**

A gift to the College means Magdalene has a two manual (Great and Chair) Goetze & Gwynn organ, new in 2000, which received critical acclaim and greatly enhances music in Chapel. In addition to the new instrument, the modified gallery allows the choir to sing from the raised west end on occasions. There is a chamber organ in Benson Hall and a virginals is kept in the Senior Organ Scholar's room. Magdalene has a flexible approach to the appointment of College musicians. There are usually two Organ Scholars who work under the Precentor. Between them they have responsibility for Chapel Music and the rehearsing and conducting of the Chapel Choir. There are two choral Evensongs each week (Thursday and Sunday) and occasional services for Feast Days etc during Full Term.

The Organ Scholars have responsibility for providing music at the College Eucharist on Sunday mornings, after which there is breakfast. Organ Scholars and members of the Choir are given a free meal in Hall after each sung evening service, and are asked to attend and sing at occasional College feasts and dinner. As for every College, the value of the Organ Scholarship is £450 pa. Organ Scholars generally live in some of the finest student rooms in College, with a piano, for the duration of his or her course, and the College pays for organ or other appropriate lessons.

More may be found about the College and its music life at [www.magd.cam.ac.uk](http://www.magd.cam.ac.uk), and choir Choir's Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/magdalenechoir/](http://www.facebook.com/magdalenechoir/)

Further information is available from:

Mr Graham Walker  
Precentor and Director of Music  
Magdalene College, Cambridge  
[ghw22@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ghw22@cam.ac.uk)

**PEMBROKE COLLEGE**  
**www.pem.cam.ac.uk**

Over the past 5 years, Pembroke College has seen a huge expansion in its musical provision including the founding of a new choir, recording multiple releases for major record labels & the acquisition of a new rehearsal and performance space.

### **The Chapel Choir**

The Pembroke College Chapel Choir participates in a particularly varied and exciting ranges of choral endeavours, including popular collaborations, frequent media appearances and outreach work alongside the primary responsibility of contributing to worship in the college's chapel. Central to the choir's ethos is the idea that the choral world should be open and inclusive to all, no matter their experience or background. This is manifest in the choir's regular outreach work and partnerships which form the backbone to our annual choir tours. Their most recent tour to Thailand featured musical workshops with nearly 1000 schoolchildren, a fundraising concert at Pattaya Orphanage and a residency at the Noh Bo Academy, a school for displaced people on the Thai-Burmese border. The choir has an ongoing relationship with musical communities in Zambia, touring there every three years and fundraising for those communities in the intervening years. The chapel choir also works closely with the Pembroke college girls' choir and is consciously seeking to diversify their repertoire through the inclusion of a piece by marginalised composers in every service.

The choir is thrilled to be signed to Signum Records, with its debut CD 'All things are quite silent' released in September 2020 to critical acclaim. In recent years, the choir has also recorded at Abbey Road Studios on two separate occasions, first with Tom Chaplin and then collaborating with the Grammy-winning composer Christopher Tin and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for Decca Records. Other collaborations include filming for BBC1 with Gareth Malone & Karen Gibson, and concert appearances with Eric Idle and the Swingle Singers.

### **Choristerships**

Pembroke does not make choral awards until students arrive in October. Auditions for places in the Choir (known as Choristerships) are held towards the end of freshers' week every year. Choristers can expect to sing an average of two services a week, in return for which they receive free singing lessons and a free formal meal every Sunday. The Choir's singing teachers are Lucy Taylor and Daniel Joy. Choristers also benefit from heavily subsidised choir tours, and can expect an international tour every year alongside a Cathedral residency every January.

### **Choral Exhibitions**

Alongside regular Choristerships, the College appoints a small consort of Choral Exhibitioners each year. Exhibitioners sing all regular services, as well as a Sung Eucharist every week, providing an opportunity to explore some more challenging consort repertoire. Exhibitioners are encouraged to take the lead with the Choir's extensive outreach work, both continuing existing projects and exploring means of expansion. In return, they receive the standard choir benefits alongside a small annual stipend.

### **Weekly schedule**

Wednesday	8pm rehearsal, 9:30pm Compline followed by cocktails
Sunday	09:15 rehearsal, 10:15 sung Eucharist ( <i>Exhibitioners only</i> ) 4pm rehearsal, 6:15 Evensong followed by champagne reception and formal

### **Organ Scholarships**

The Organ Scholars at Pembroke work directly with the Director of Music, taking on responsibility for planning the music of the Chapel Services and for recruiting and training the Choir. The College sets considerable store on allowing the scholars the opportunity to shape the musical life of the Chapel, ensuring a degree of autonomy in making musical decisions and extensive experience in conducting. The junior organ scholar mostly takes responsibility for accompanying the girls' choir, and the senior organ scholar works primarily with the chapel choir, although there is some overlap. Sunday Eucharist is entirely the responsibility of the organ scholars, who choose and rehearse the music and conduct the service. The overall commitment equates to 3 services a week.

We aim to have two organ scholars in residence at any one time. The Director of Music supports the organ scholars and the choir, providing training where necessary and dividing up duties across the year. Their dedication and enthusiasm have created high standards of performance, but the commitment required each week is not so heavy as to prevent other interests; indeed, the restricted number of choral services has made it attractive to those with serious interests outside Chapel music as well as to those reading degrees other than Music.

Organ Scholars receive awards of £450 and free organ lessons, alongside being given luxurious sets of rooms in College with a grand piano (or an upright for the Junior Organ Scholar) and a harpsichord. The scholarships have been endowed by an old member, Nigel Graham Maw, and a late Fellow, Dr Sidney Kenderdine, to assist with the purchase of music and other benefits.

### **The Organs**

Pembroke College is proud to have three organs, following the recent acquisition of the United Reformed Church opposite the College. The main chapel organ is originally of 1708 with Father Smith pipe work, rebuilt by Mander in 1980 in baroque style (two-manuals, tracker). It is particularly excellent for Bach and pride is taken in the voluntaries given by the organ scholars. The chapel also boasts a prestigious chamber organ by Bernard Aubertin, and a fine two-manual harpsichord. The organ in the United Reformed Church is also of significant historical interest, built by Henry Willis in 1880 and later restored by Harrison & Harrison. It is a fine example of a Victorian two-manual instrument.

### **Music in College**

The musical life of Pembroke is enhanced by regular concerts given by both students and professionals. The College Musician, Joseph Middleton, organises the Sir Arthur Bliss Song Series, a series of recitals given by performers of the highest calibre. Recent recitalists have included Dame Felicity Lott, Dame Sarah Connolly, Sir Thomas Allen, Carolyn Sampson, Ian Bostridge and Iestyn Davies. This series runs alongside the Pembroke Lieder Scheme, providing coaching for the most promising Lieder singers and accompanists in the University. Choir members and organ scholars are encouraged to audition for the scheme.

Pembroke College Music Society hosts a weekly recital showcasing the talents of Pembroke students alongside professional musicians. Concerts of choral music are presented each term and these are complemented by choral concerts and regular concerts in London. You can read more about College music at [www.musicatpembroke.co.uk](http://www.musicatpembroke.co.uk), and you can keep up to date with the College's latest musical news by following our facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/pembrokechoir>.

### **Find out more**

The Director of Music, Anna Lapwood, is always delighted to meet informally with those interested in joining Pembroke Choir either as a singer or an organist.

For further information or to arrange a meeting please contact:

Ms. Anna Lapwood, Director of Music

Pembroke College, Trumpington Street, Cambridge, CB2 1RF, Email: [arel2@cam.ac.uk](mailto:arel2@cam.ac.uk)

**PETERHOUSE**  
[www.pet.cam.ac.uk](http://www.pet.cam.ac.uk)

Founded in 1284, Peterhouse is the oldest and smallest of the Cambridge colleges. The chapel was consecrated in 1632, and soon afterwards a choir was founded to sing services in the building. Peterhouse has nurtured a rich musical tradition throughout its history, and to sing in Peterhouse Chapel Choir is to take part in this rich history, to become part of a vibrant and living tradition of music-making that stretches back through the centuries.

### **Peterhouse Choir**

Peterhouse Chapel Choir is made up of around 20 singers who come together to form a close-knit ensemble performing music to the highest standards. The choir sings Choral Evensong twice each week during Full Term, on Wednesdays and on Sundays. In addition, the choir also sing for a wide variety of other choral services over the year. These usually include a termly Choral Eucharist; the Advent and Christmas carol services; the Commemoration of Benefactors service; a Passiontide service during the Lent Term; and the St Peter's Day Evensong and Graduation Service at the end of the Easter Term. To prepare for these services, there are three weekly choir practices: a main practice on Fridays, and shorter ones before each sung service. This all makes for a busy schedule, but even so, many members of the chapel choir still find time to pursue a number of other extra-curricular activities to a high level.

The age and intimate acoustic of Peterhouse chapel makes it a particularly suitable place to perform early music. Peterhouse is home to a unique collection of choral music from the Golden Age of Gibbons, Tallis and Byrd, the Peterhouse Partbooks – music that continues to play a significant role in the repertoire of the choir. But we do not only sing early music: our repertoire encompasses the widest possible range of choral music from across the centuries, up to the present day, including works commissioned for and premiered by the choir.

In a new development, the college has recently appointed a Director of Music, Dr Simon Jackson, who has been in post since October 2017. He works closely with the college's Organ Scholars to oversee the running of the chapel choir. He is always delighted to hear from prospective Organ and Choral Scholars – please see below for his contact details.

### **Choral Scholarships**

Peterhouse participates in the University's Choral Scholarship Scheme. Choral Scholars sing in all choral services in the chapel, and receive a free meal at formal hall on each occasion (both services and rehearsals) they sing; they also receive a generous number of free singing lessons each year, and £100 per annum. Choir meals are traditionally very convivial occasions, and are supplemented by three or four black-tie dinners during the course of the year. The college is very supportive of the choir and its activities, and the choir has developed a distinctive profile within Cambridge and beyond for its musical excellence. Singing in Peterhouse Chapel Choir offers many opportunities for you to develop your own musical abilities and interests. You will find plenty of scope for refining your general musicianship, as well as developing particular talents, both in a regular liturgical context, and in special events such as college concerts.

### **Tours and Recordings**

The choir tours each year in the Summer—including destinations as varied as Edinburgh, Tuscany, Iceland, Provence, Andalucia, and most recently to Copenhagen and the Faroe Islands. During the course of each year, we also embark on regular visits to British cathedrals (most Ely, Norwich, Peterborough and, this year, Worcester) and sing a number of concerts in local churches; the choir also now undertakes regular recording projects, and a number of the choir's recent performances can be seen on their website (details below).

### **Organ Scholarships**

Organ Scholars at Peterhouse play a vital part in leading and shaping the musical life of the college and chapel. Peterhouse has two undergraduate Organ Scholars at any one time, and applications should be made through the University's Organ Scholarship scheme. Organ Scholars are offered a free tuition on the organ, in conducting and singing, subsidised rooms on the main college site for the duration of their degree, and £450 per annum. With the support of the college's Director of Music, Organ Scholars are involved in all aspects of running the chapel choir: regularly rehearsing, directing and accompanying the choir. This puts our Organ Scholars in a strong position to apply for posts involving musical direction and organ-playing at the end of their time in Cambridge.

### **The Chapel Organ**

The Organ in Peterhouse Chapel originates from the 1760s, though it has been expanded and restored over the years; it still includes a great deal of historic pipework by one of the finest organ builders of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century, John Snetzler. Peterhouse is in the process of commissioning a new organ, conceived around this historic legacy.

### **Peterhouse Music Society**

Alongside the musical life of the Chapel, Peterhouse is home to a vibrant student-led Music Society which organizes concerts and recitals each term. Peterhouse hosts a variety of musical events: our lunchtime concert series provides a friendly platform to showcase talent within the college, and we also put on end of term showcase concerts in the Peterhouse Theatre, and popular Jazz evenings in the Plevy bar. Chamber music is a particular strength of Peterhouse's musical scene, and the college is fortunate to have a number of music awards open to members of the college for performance and composition.

### **Camerata Musica**

Peterhouse is also home to one of the finest professional chamber music series in all of Cambridge—Camerata Musica, whose aim is to introduce students to the greatest chamber music of the classical tradition, performed by some of the world's leading musicians. Past performers include Natalie Clein, Christopher Maltman, John Mark Ainsley, Angela Hewitt (an honorary Fellow of Peterhouse), and a host of stellar names. The price of student tickets is kept extremely low, offering an exceptional opportunity to hear some of the finest musical performers of their generation at first hand in the intimate venue of the Peterhouse Theatre. Camerata Musica also provides generous financial support of up to £1,200 to student ensembles connected with the college as part of the Peterhouse Music Awards scheme.

### **Useful Links**

Chapel Choir Website: [www.pet.cam.ac.uk/chapel-choir](http://www.pet.cam.ac.uk/chapel-choir)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PeterhouseChoir](http://www.facebook.com/PeterhouseChoir)

Twitter: [www.twitter.com/PeterhouseChoir](http://www.twitter.com/PeterhouseChoir)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/pet\\_chapel\\_choir/](http://www.instagram.com/pet_chapel_choir/)

### **For further information, please contact:**

Dr Simon Jackson,  
Director of Music and Bye-Fellow,  
Peterhouse  
[directorofmusic@pet.cam.ac.uk](mailto:directorofmusic@pet.cam.ac.uk)  
01223 338 220

Queens' College Chapel Choir is a mixed choir of up to twenty-five singers and two organ scholars directed by Dr Ralph Allwood MBE. Combining high quality music-making, ambitious and wide-ranging repertoire and commitment to detail with a friendly atmosphere and vibrant social life, the choir is an ideal environment for talented musicians who want to find a fulfilling balance between the commitments of a Cambridge degree and a high-calibre choral experience.

### **Weekly Schedule**

The Chapel Choir has a moderate weekly commitment of a minimum of six hours per week. This allows students of demanding subjects to still be able to commit to the Chapel Choir, while also allowing particularly active musicians and artists to be involved in the University's various performance societies.

Sunday:	4.30-5.45pm Rehearsal	6.00pm Evensong	7.30pm Formal Hall (free)
Wednesday:	5.10-6.00pm Rehearsal	6.15pm Evensong/Eucharist	7.30pm Formal Hall (free)
Friday:	5.10-6.45pm Rehearsal	8.15-8.45pm Rehearsal	9.00pm Choral Compline

### **Concerts, Outreach, Tours, Recordings**

Regular recitals in Cambridge, concerts in London - such as recent performances at St Martin-in-the-Fields of Mozart's *Requiem* in 2018 and Thomas Tallis's *Spem in Alium* in 2019 - and cathedral tours (which in recent years have included Westminster Abbey and Ely Cathedral) comprise the majority of the choir's performances outside of regular services. The Chapel Choir tours internationally every year with the cost of accommodation and flights covered by the College, performing in countries such as Hong Kong (2014), Hungary (2015), France (2016), USA (2017), Greece (2018), and France (2019). The choir had plans to tour to Malta in 2020, which have now been delayed until 2021. As part of the Chapel Choir's outreach and access initiatives, the Chapel Choir regularly hosts 'Joint Evensong' services with many youth choirs from around the UK, such as London Youth Choir and Inner Voices, as well as various school choirs. The Choir also regularly sings Joint Evensongs with other Cambridge chapel choirs, both as hosts and guests. The Choir has a large discography, gaining critical acclaim for recent recordings *Flight of Song*, *Songs of Heaven and Earth* and *For the Wings of a Dove*, directed by Dr Silas Wollston, and in 2019 the Choir recorded a series of new pieces by UK composers, with plans for more in the near future.

### **Perks**

Every member of the Chapel Choir receives free fortnightly singing lessons and members of Queens' College can apply for other College funds to subsidise further tuition. The Chapel Choir are rewarded each week with free three-course meals (known as Formal Hall) after every Wednesday and Sunday service during term time, with additional subsidised meals and social events throughout the year. Singers have the opportunity to perform solos during services throughout the term, as well as for higher profile concert works such as Schubert's *Mass in G* in March 2020. The major expenses of touring internationally are covered by the college and if necessary extra hardship funds are available to support students in financial need. Various other perks (such as free headshot photo shoots and links to individual performer's websites via the choir's publicity team) are available on request.

### **Choral Scholars**

Choral Scholars are formally appointed by the College for three years through the Inter-Collegiate Choral Awards Competition and are expected to give full commitment to the Choir for the duration of the scholarship. Each Choral Scholar receives the standard University choral award stipend in addition to the standard perks provided to all other choir members. There are currently nine Choral Scholars for the academic year 2019-20, studying a range of subjects.

### **Organ Scholars**

Queens' College has nurtured some of the finest organ scholars in the UK. Former organ scholars include Charles Villiers Stanford (1870-72) and Richard Hickox (1967-70), and more recent organ scholars enjoy successful careers as opera conductors, music conservatoire professors and Directors of Music in cathedrals, churches and schools throughout the UK and abroad. The two organ scholars are central to the music-making in the college and work with Ralph Allwood, the Chaplain, and the Dean of Chapel on a day-to-day basis to organise and deliver all the music in Chapel. Beyond playing the organ and occasionally conducting services, the organ scholars share some of the artistic direction and administration of the choir (with the Choir Administrator), including the selection of music, and the planning of concerts, tours and other events.

The organ scholars can study any subject and enjoy the same privileges as members of the choir, including free three-course meals after Chapel services and free singing lessons. In addition, the organ scholars receive a generous stipend each year towards organ tuition, conducting lessons and the purchasing of scores. The organ scholars are provided with special rooms in college which have university network phones, internet and pianos. The Senior Organ Scholar occupies some of the finest

accommodation in the College, with a set of seventeenth-century rooms (including a personal kitchen) adjacent to the Chapel.

### **Conductors & Composers**

As many choral and organ scholars are interested in conducting and composition opportunities, it is worth noting that Queens' College Chapel Choir caters for both of these musical interests. The Chapel Choir gives student conductors within the choir the opportunity to conduct the weekly Friday choral compline service in Queens' Chapel, providing them with invaluable conducting experience during their academic studies. The Chapel Choir is occasionally directed by eminent visiting conductors such as Dr Christopher Robinson, Peter Allwood, and Christopher Gravis, allowing the young conductors to experience different conducting styles while performing within the choir. Ralph Allwood can provide private conducting tuition for those who may be interested. Queens' is also home to the Queens' Conducting Programme, which is led by world-renowned conductor and educator, Suzi Digby OBE. Conductors can also apply to direct the MagSoc concert at the end of each term, conducting great works of the choral repertoire with the MagSoc Chorus and Symphony Orchestra.

Dr Allwood, the Organ Scholars, and the Chapel Choir welcome the opportunity to perform new music by early-career and established composers. Members of the Chapel Choir are strongly encouraged to compose new music and descants for the choir and organists.

### **Music at Queens'**

Queens' College is a very musical College, whose thriving musical life centres around the Chapel Choir and the St. Margaret's Society of Queens' (known as MagSoc), the College music society. The society gives a major performance each term, usually uniting the MagSoc Chorus (Cambridge's largest non-audition chorus) and the Chapel Choir for a performance of a large-scale choral work in the West Road Concert Hall. Recent performances have included Mozart's *Requiem*, Handel's *Messiah*, Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem*, Mendelssohn's *Elijah* and Tippett's *A Child of Our Time*. MagSoc also organise weekly recitals in the Old Hall during term time, and music-making in Queens' is often supported by applications to the Friends of Queens' Music fund. The Tyro Prize is a competition for musicians who do not study music as their primary degree, which encourages a broader sense of music-making within the College. Queens' also has a permanent Fellow in Music Studies, Dr Peter McMurray, who is an ethnomusicologist, saxophonist and media artist.

### **Musical Facilities at Queens'**

Queens' has many fine performance venues, including the Chapel (designed by G.F. Bodley and built in 1891), the splendidly decorated Old Hall (which houses a Boston grand piano), the Fitzpatrick Hall (one of Cambridge's most versatile theatres, with an orchestra pit for operatic productions), and the beautiful wood-panelled Long Gallery of the President's Lodge. There are two music practice rooms with upright pianos, an upright piano in the Chapel, and rehearsals can also take place in the Old Music Room adjacent to the Chapel. The President of the College makes available the instruments in the President's Lodge to the best keyboard players, in particular a Steinway piano and a double-manual Johnson harpsichord.

### **The Organ**

The three-manual Binns organ, built in 1892 and completely restored in 2002 by Harrison & Harrison, is without doubt one of the finest instruments in all of Cambridge and is unique for remaining tonally unaltered since it was built. It is a beautifully voiced and hugely versatile instrument for accompanying the liturgy, as well as a very striking recital instrument. The large Victorian chapel has a spacious acoustic, making it a particularly rewarding space in which to perform, and the termly series of organ recitals attracts performances by student, professional and concert organists from around the UK and abroad.

### **Further Information**

If you would like more information about auditioning for Queens' College Chapel Choir, or would like to visit and attend a rehearsal and/or service, please contact any of the following people who would be delighted to help out:

- Ed Stubbs (Choir Administrator) - [choiradmin@queens.cam.ac.uk](mailto:choiradmin@queens.cam.ac.uk)
- Robin Pillinger (Senior Organ Scholar) - [rp625@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rp625@cam.ac.uk)
- Dr Ralph Allwood - [allwood.ralph@gmail.com](mailto:allwood.ralph@gmail.com)

If you would like to know more about the choir, find us online:

- On our website: [www.queenscollegechoir.co.uk](http://www.queenscollegechoir.co.uk)
- Twitter [@QueensCChoir](https://twitter.com/QueensCChoir)
- Instagram [@queenscollegechoir](https://www.instagram.com/queenscollegechoir)
- Facebook Page "Queens' College Choir" [@queenscollegechoir](https://www.facebook.com/queenscollegechoir)

Robinson is the youngest of the Cambridge Colleges, founded in 1977 by the late Sir David Robinson. Its prizewinning buildings enclose a magnificent landscaped garden with a lake. Student rooms are extremely comfortable and the student food is regularly voted outstanding by the University's Student Guide. The College is very close to the Faculty of Music and the University Library and just a few minutes' walk from the centre of town. The spacious and beautiful Chapel houses two breathtaking stained glass windows by John Piper, and four outstanding instruments: a Frobenius organ, a one-manual chamber organ, a Rubio harpsichord, and a Steinway grand piano.

### **Chapel Choir**

The Chapel Choir is an exciting, friendly, and enthusiastic group comprising Choral Scholars and volunteers. As well as two services a week throughout term it also gives concerts, makes occasional visits to cathedrals and exchanges with other choirs, radio broadcasts, and summer tours. Recent tour destinations have included Granada, Innsbruck, Milan, Paris and Hong Kong, where we sang a full-length concert on national television with international artists Yundi Li and Niu Niu. The choir has made several CDs, including music by Vaughan Williams, and première recordings of new works by Giles Swayne and Jeremy Thurlow. The choir is conducted by the Director of Chapel Music, Mr Simon Brown, who is assisted by the Organ Scholars, the college's Music Fellow Dr Jeremy Thurlow, and the Chaplain.

### **Practicalities**

Members of the choir receive a free formal 3-course dinner after Evensong every Tuesday, and generously subsidised singing lessons with outstanding singing teachers Lucy Taylor and Neil MacKenzie. The time commitment for singing in the choir is as follows: Tuesdays – rehearsal and Evensong; Thursdays – rehearsal; Sundays – rehearsal and Service, as well as some extra concerts and rehearsals each term, and a tour in the spring or summer. The choir typically comprises 24-30 voices. There are also one-year choral bursaries for volunteers making an especially valuable contribution to the choir.

### **Choral Scholarships**

Choral Scholars play a leading role in the choir. Choral scholarships are offered in all voices, mainly via the Intercollegiate Choral Scholarship Auditions, but also from time to time to internal candidates within the College. In addition to the free formal dinners offered to all choir members, Choral Scholars receive free singing lessons and a stipend set at the University's agreed rate, currently £100 per year.

### **Organ Scholarships**

The quality of the Frobenius organ at Robinson, together with the high standards of the choir, has attracted some very strong organ scholars over the years. Past scholars have included Peter Dyke (Hereford Cathedral), Mark Hindley (Leeds Philharmonic Chorus), Tim Johnson (Precentor, Eton College), Sarah MacDonald (Selwyn College and Ely Cathedral), Andrew Reid (Westminster Cathedral). The scholarship at Robinson, with its mentoring and training from Simon Brown provides an ideal preparation for a successful career in the music profession. The Organ Scholars receive free organ lessons and vocal training, and a free formal 3-course dinner after Evensong every Tuesday. Organ scholars receive a stipend at the University's agreed rate, currently £450 per year.

### **The Frobenius Organ**

The organ at Robinson is much admired. Made by the acclaimed Danish organ builder Frobenius of Copenhagen, and built in continuous consultation with the architect as he worked on the chapel itself, it harmonises beautifully with the building. The organ has 26 speaking stops in a continental classical style. It is a two-manual instrument with a responsive tracker keyboard action, balanced swell pedal, and electrical stop action, with a full set of thumb and toe pistons. It is particularly well-suited to Bach and the Baroque and Classical repertoire, but is also accommodates a wide range of solo repertoire up to the present time; it is also an effective accompanying instrument.

### **The Chamber Organ**

A generous benefaction has enabled a beautiful new one-manual chamber organ built specially for Robinson College by Soundcraft Pipe Organ Co. in 2020. It has a remarkable variety of tone-colours and opens up the possibilities of a more intimate style of music-making from within the choir.

### **Further information**

see the following websites: <https://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/college-life/chapel/organ-awards>

<https://www.facebook.com/RobinsonCollegeChapelChoir/> <https://www.robinson.cam.ac.uk/college-life/music>

and you are welcome to contact

Mr Simon Brown, Director of Chapel Music; [slb79@cam.ac.uk](mailto:slb79@cam.ac.uk)

Dr Jeremy Thurlow, Fellow and Director of Studies in Music; [jrt26@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jrt26@cam.ac.uk)

**ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE**  
**www.caths.cam.ac.uk**

With two distinguished choirs, including the UK's first college-based Girls' Choir, an active Music Society and opportunities for performance and participation from folk and jazz to classical and world music, musical life at St Catharine's is distinctive in its richness and variety.

The College Choir, made up uniquely of undergraduates, graduates and former members of the Girls' Choir, is 24 strong, and is led by the Director of Music – Dr Edward Wickham – and two organ scholars. Choir members have the opportunity to engage with a wide variety of repertoire – from traditional Anglican evensong to large-scale choral works, from consort singing to experimental and 'world music' repertoire. The choir is embarked on a rolling programme of recordings on the Resonus Classics label; focusing on contemporary and Renaissance music, most of it appearing in recording for the first time. The choirs at St Catharine's have often been featured on BBC Radio programmes such as 'In Tune', 'The Choir' and 'Sunday Worship'.

The Choir sings full choral Evensong on Sundays and either NightSongs (Compline) or a special service on Thursday evenings. For some services (including Sunday morning Eucharist), smaller consorts drawn from the Choir are required to sing, on a rotational basis. The choir will also work on major choral repertoire such as Handel's *Dixit Dominus* and Bach's *St John Passion*.

Choral scholars receive £100 each year as well as many other benefits, including free singing tuition, subsidised foreign trips, and regular free dining throughout the term. Each summer the Choir undertakes a major tour. Recent foreign tours have included Hong Kong and the United States. Brief trips are sometimes undertaken out of term time – in recent times to such venues as Ely Cathedral, Oxford, Wells Cathedral, and Cardiff.

St Catharine's aims to attract talented and ambitious singers, but not necessarily those who want to devote all their energies to this one activity. Choral Scholars at St Catharine's have the opportunity to be involved in a wide range of musical and non-musical activities such as running the College Music Society, playing for, singing in, and even producing, musicals and operas. Most Choral Scholars give solo recitals at St Catharine's and beyond during their time in the Choir.

#### **Organ Scholars: Duties and Benefits**

There are two Organ Scholars at the College at any one time. At St Catharine's, the Organ Scholars have a great deal of responsibility for the conducting and accompanying of services, overseen by a professional Director of Music. They are also closely involved in the training and supervision of the Girls' Choir. The Senior Organ Scholar, along with the Director of Music, will conduct the majority of services, while the Junior Organ Scholar will also conduct a significant number.

Organ Scholars receive a stipend of £450 per annum, a generous towards music tuition (organ and conducting lessons) and music purchase, and a preferential choice of rooms within College, with piano. Other fringe benefits include subsidised foreign trips and some free dining.

Former organ scholars have gone on to pursue diverse careers within music – some within the Church and Cathedral world, others in West End theatre and reperturing. In particular, the experience of working with children provides St Catharine's Organ Scholars with an important training not available in many other Cambridge Colleges.

#### **The Organ and the Chapel**

The College Organ is a three-manual mechanical action instrument designed by former Director of Music Peter le Huray, which in 2000 underwent major rebuilding by the Dutch firm Flentrop. The instrument is much in demand from teachers and outside players (including the Organ Scholars of other colleges), while the chapel is often used for professional concerts and recordings. The Chapel also houses a Steinway grand piano and a two-manual harpsichord.

#### **College Music**

Aside from the choir, St Catharine's promotes a wide variety of concerts and musical events. The Kellaway Chamber Music Series attracts professional soloists and ensembles to the College for recitals and masterclasses, while The Music Society hosts diverse events such as informal musical luncheons, open mike sessions and jazz evenings.

#### **For further information, please contact:**

Dr Edward Wickham, Director of College Music  
St Catharine's College, Cambridge,  
eaw37@cam.ac.uk; 01223 337 746

Chapel Music at St Edmund's is unique in Cambridge. Not only are we the only Roman Catholic Foundation in Oxbridge, but musical opportunities are also such that anyone can participate, regardless of their situation or level of experience. (The student body at Eddie's [as the College is affectionately known] is the most diverse of the Colleges, and all are aged 21 or older, often with family commitments to uphold alongside their studies.)

The Chapel itself is relatively small, but perfectly-formed, with an ideal acoustic for chamber music and small-group singing, as well as housing a fine Bechstein concert grand piano and a versatile electronic Wyvern two-manual organ.

### **The Chapel Choir**

The Chapel Choir is non-auditioned and open to anyone, regardless of singing experience or ability to read music. Frequency of attendance is entirely up to the individual: members commit to singing services as and when they can. Rehearsals are a mixture of vocal technique, learning to sight-sing, and general musicianship, as well as preparing music for Mass three or four times a term. Singing lessons are available to all (free-of-charge), either with the Director of Chapel Music or an external professional teacher. There are also opportunities to sing during the vacations – many Eddie's students' homes are abroad, and plenty choose to remain in College between terms.

### **The Chapel Schola**

In contrast the Chapel Schola is a group of between eight and ten singers, admitted by audition, who are generally experienced musicians and confident singing just one- or two-to-a-part. The Schola sing Mass or Vespers four or five times a term, providing an opportunity for those who wish to sing to a high standard but who cannot commit to a routine of meeting three or four times a week, for whatever reason. Members are expected to commit to the year's schedule, which also involves special events such as the popular annual Carol Service, and Commemoration of Benefactors. Singing lessons are provided free-of-charge and Choral Awards are available through the Intercollegiate Choral Award Scheme.

### **Repertoire**

A wide range of music is sung for the regular services of both Mass (English and occasionally Latin [Novus Ordo]) and Vespers: plainchant in both Latin and English, contemporary Mass settings as well as polyphony, and other works by composers from across the world and down the centuries. The Chapel Choir has joined forces with other collegiate choirs on occasion – these are excellent social events as well as a chance to make music with others outside our own community.

### **Further Opportunities**

Members of both the Chapel Choir and Schola regularly act as cantors for non-choral Sunday Masses, singing the psalm and Gospel verses, as well as a solo during Communion if they wish. While Organ Awards are not currently offered, there are plenty of opportunities for students interested in conducting and/or organ-playing, and tuition is available from the Director of Chapel Music.

External concerts and trips abroad are occasionally arranged: in 2016 musicians from St Edmund's College (Cambridge), St Edmund Hall (Oxford), St Edmund's College (Ware), and St Edmund's School (Canterbury) collaborated for a week of special Masses and concerts at the shrine of St Edmund in Pontigny Abbey, France; and in January 2018 Sir James MacMillan (internationally-renowned composer and Honorary Fellow of the College) directed the Chapel Schola in the first public performance of his *Culham Motets* in the College Chapel.

## **Further Information and Contact**

The Director of Chapel Music is always delighted to hear from anyone interested in becoming involved in Chapel Music at Eddie's. Please see the website and Facebook pages for more details, or contact as below.

Miss Louisa Denby  
Director of Chapel Music & Organist  
St Edmund's College  
Mount Pleasant  
CAMBRIDGE  
CB3 0BN

Email: [chapel-music@st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk](mailto:chapel-music@st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk)  
[www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/chapel](http://www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/chapel)  
[www.facebook.com/EddiesChapelMusic](http://www.facebook.com/EddiesChapelMusic)

For 'St John's Voices', which sings one service per week, please see page 36

St John's has been at the forefront of choral music in the world for over 60 years, known and loved by millions from its broadcasts, concert tours and over 100 recordings. Founded in the 1670s, the Choir is famous for its distinctive rich, warm sound, its expressive interpretations and its mastery of a wide variety of styles. Alongside this discipline, the Choir is also known for its happy, relaxed and mutually supportive atmosphere. During term time, the Choir sings seven services per week: Evensong every day except Monday, and Eucharist on Sunday morning. The Choir is made up of sixteen Choral Scholars (four altos, five tenors and seven basses) who are known as the 'Gents' and the sixteen Choristers and four Probationers, educated at St John's College School, who sing treble.

### **Choral Scholarships**

Those applying to be St John's Choral Scholars are expected to have a good voice, though not necessarily one trained in the choral tradition. Future promise can be absolutely as important as a fully-honed instrument. Although a proficient sight-reading ability is desirable, it is not essential, provided that applicants demonstrate a strong work ethic and eagerness to improve. The College funds singing lessons for all Choral Scholars and covers the costs of all Choir tours and external engagements. Singing teachers may be chosen from a list approved by Andrew Nethsingha. Most choir members are taught by either David Lowe or Alex Ashworth. Choral Scholars also receive substantial fees for tours, concerts and broadcasts. Alongside singing with the Choir, Choral Scholars are encouraged to develop singing activities outside the College and many choose to sing in the large number of operas and concerts which happen in Cambridge throughout the year. They study a wide range of subjects—recent members of the Choir have studied Philosophy, Theology, Classics, Geography and Natural Sciences—and come from many different backgrounds, schools and musical experiences. Many former Choral Scholars are now musicians of international renown, including Simon Keenlyside, Iestyn Davies, Allan Clayton and Jonathan Nott.

### **Organ Scholarships**

St John's has two Organ Scholars at any one time. Their duties are both to accompany the College Choir, and to assist in the training of the Choristers. A candidate for the Organ Scholarship should have a solid organ technique, good sight-reading, and the ability to improvise musically. A candidate should also have an enthusiasm for choir training and for enabling the boys and men to perform at a high technical and musical level. The College encourages the performance of new repertoire and a sum from the McKean Fund is provided each year for the purchase of organ music. Organ Scholarships are open to both men and women. The College pays for organ and improvisation lessons, and substantial performance fees are paid for the many 'extra' services and concerts which are undertaken by the Choir. Organ Scholars also benefit from playing continuo with professional orchestras and ensembles. Most former Organ Scholars have gone on to pursue high profile musical careers - Stephen Cleobury, John Scott, David Hill, Andrew Lumsden and Iain Farrington were all Organ Scholars at St John's. A full list of former Organ Scholars can be found on the Choir's website.

### **Herbert Howells Organ Scholarship**

Since October 2013, the Senior Organ Scholar is known as the Herbert Howells Organ Scholar, in memory of the composer who was an Honorary Fellow of the College, and who directed the Choir during the Second World War. St John's Organ Scholars may come straight from school or may have one or two gap years first. If you wish to discuss the possibility of coming to St John's, please get in touch with Andrew Nethsingha.

### **Organ music commissions**

The College has recently received a large donation to enable new organ works from high-profile composers to be commissioned for first performance by the Organ Scholars, who also have a leading role in the commissioning process. The first such commission was by Francis Pott and was premiered by Edward Picton-Turbervill in a live BBC broadcast. Other commissions include pieces from Tarik O'Regan and Louis Andriessen and Judith Bingham.

### **Repertoire**

The Choir's repertoire is extremely varied, spanning over 500 years of music, from late 15<sup>th</sup> century polyphony to the music of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. It is renowned for championing contemporary music, regularly enriching the repertoire with its commissioning of new works. Recently music has been written for the Choir by Judith Weir, James MacMillan, Michael Finnissy, Nico Muhly, Cheryl Frances-Hoad, Cecilia McDowall, Julian Anderson and Judith Bingham. Each term, an Evensong includes one or two full Bach Cantata(s) with some of the country's leading instrumentalists and solos from members of the Choir. The Choir's concert work has included Bach's *St John Passion*, Haydn's *Creation*, Verdi's *Requiem* and Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast*.

## Recordings and broadcasts

The Choir makes two commercially released CD recordings each year. The Choir has an illustrious discography, stretching back to the 1950s, and since 2016 it has recorded on its own label in partnership with Signum Classics. The first own-label release, *Deo*, of music by Jonathan Harvey, won the coveted BBC Music Magazine Award for 2017 Choral Disc of the Year. Since then, ten further recordings of the Choir have been released on the label. The most recent, *Magnificat II*, was released in April 2021. All are available on commercial streaming services such as Spotify. The label also showcases some of the College's most talented current students and prominent alumni. *Subito*, an album of solo violin repertoire from Julia Hwang, who graduated from the College in 2017, was released in June 2017, and former Chorister/Choral Scholar Iestyn Davies has recently recorded Schubert's *Die schöne Müllerin* with pianist Joseph Middleton. The Choir is famous for its annual Advent Carol Service, broadcast on BBC Radio 3, as well as for its regular broadcasts of Choral Evensong on Ash Wednesday and other occasions. The Choir also appears on radio and television overseas.

## Webcasting and Live Streaming

The Choir of St John's broadcasts weekly webcasts of its services - the first British choir to do so regularly – to up to 10,000 listeners from all over the world, and has streamed live services via Classic FM's Facebook page.

## Concerts and Tours

The Choir is regularly invited to perform overseas, visiting Japan, Brazil, South Africa, Australia, the USA, Hong Kong and Singapore as well countries throughout Europe. As well as concerts abroad, the Choir performs regularly in the UK, with venues including the Birmingham Symphony Hall, Royal Festival Hall and Royal Albert Hall. The Choir performs with leading orchestras such as the Philharmonia and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

## 'The Gentlemen of St John's'

As well as forming the back row of the Choir, the Choral Scholars or 'Gents' also perform as a self-directed ensemble. With a repertoire of music ranging from sacred music and folksongs to their prized close-harmony arrangements (mostly written by current and former members), the Gents is a very popular group in College. As well as the legendary 5.00 a.m. slot at the St John's May Ball and Christmas gig at the Maypole, members of the Gents undertake touring, concerts and recordings which can number over 50 lucrative external engagements. These are not compulsory! The Gents have recently toured Singapore, Italy, Germany and Thailand and have recorded their tenth CD, *White Christmas*. The best way to get a feel for what they do is to have a listen—all their recordings are available on commercial streaming sites.

**Andrew Nethsingha** has been Director of Music since 2007.

**St John's College** was founded in 1511 and is the second largest Cambridge College. It has about 150 Fellows, 530 undergraduates and 300 graduates.

## Music at St John's

Music is at the heart of St John's. The thriving Music Society has its own orchestra and chamber groups, which cater to the many fine instrumentalists in the College. *Jazz at John's*, which puts on regular termtime events, is a real University institution, and a 180-seater concert hall was opened in 2012. Senior professional musicians at the College also include the conductor Dr Christopher Robinson, pianist Professor John Rink, and the composer Tim Watts. A professional period instrument orchestra, *St John's Sinfonia*, is led by the eminent violinist, Margaret Faultless. The College has an orchestra, a Jazz Band, *Aquila* a female a cappella choir, and *St John's Voices*, a mixed-voice choir (see page 34). Recent undergraduate instrumentalists at St John's include Laura Van Der Heijden, Stephanie Childress and Julia Hwang. A Virtual College Concert, put together during the Covid-19 lockdown, gives a taste of the variety of music-making at St John's:

<https://bit.ly/3eW2xXf>

## Find out more

Andrew Nethsingha is always delighted to meet informally with prospective Organ and Choral Scholars at any time of the year, to hear singing/playing and to give advice. The Admissions Department holds Open Days in June. To arrange a visit to College or to find out more information, please contact Caroline Marks at [c.f.marks@joh.cam.ac.uk](mailto:c.f.marks@joh.cam.ac.uk) or on 01223 338718. Caroline can also send you a link to a collection of videos regarding membership of the choir.

THE CHOIR:	<a href="http://www.sjcchoir.co.uk">www.sjcchoir.co.uk</a>	THE COLLEGE:	<a href="http://www.joh.cam.ac.uk">www.joh.cam.ac.uk</a>
ADMISSIONS:	<a href="http://www.joh.cam.ac.uk/admissions">www.joh.cam.ac.uk/admissions</a>	THE GENTS:	<a href="http://www.gentlemenofstjohns.co.uk">www.gentlemenofstjohns.co.uk</a>

## **St John's Voices**

St John's Voices is the mixed-voice choir from St John's College, Cambridge. Formed in 2013 to complement the work of our sister choir, SJV has quickly developed a remarkable reputation for its emotionally-charged, musically committed performances. Weekly evensongs in the College Chapel complement concerts, tours and recordings to offer an inspiring and immersive experience for choir and listener alike.

SJV are extremely fortunate to be able to sing day by day in one of the world's finest acoustics for choral music, supported by the fine Mander organ, in the glorious Victorian gothic splendour of our College Chapel. The choir's repertoire ranges from early Renaissance to the present day, and takes in substantial works by major composers: the motets of JS Bach have featured regularly in our Evensongs, for instance. We are passionate advocates for contemporary music, and have commissioned at least one new work every year, including several pieces over the years written by our students.

The choir is almost unique in Cambridge in that it is specifically set up to focus on two parallel aims: concerts, and services in the Chapel. The Voices usually undertake one or two concerts each term, in the College Chapel, which is often repeated elsewhere. Concerts are often accompanied by professional orchestra. There is usually an annual tour, sometimes with a second short visit overseas, alongside trips to Cathedrals, College Livings, and elsewhere.

Alongside its exceptionally high musical standards, the choir is extremely friendly and sociable, and is most fortunate to receive the strong support of the College community. All members of the choir receive a generous singing lesson allocation.

### **Services**

St John's Voices sings Choral Evensong every Monday during full term, as well as occasional Compline and other services.

### **Tours and other performances**

The choir regularly tours overseas, and in 2016 undertook its first tour of the Far East, which included sell-out performances of Handel's Messiah in venues in Hong Kong and Singapore. More recently the Choir has toured Switzerland and Ireland, and at the time of writing plans are in development for visits to Canada, and Colombia. The Choir performs regularly in the College Chapel, in the Hall for College Feasts and dinners, as well as in other locations as opportunities arise.

### **Rehearsals**

The Choir rehearses every Thursday evening as well as at 5pm before Evensong on a Monday.

### **Recordings**

SJV released its first professional recording in 2020, on the Naxos label. The disc, of music by William Mathias, received rave reviews in the music press and reached No. 7 in the Classical Charts, and was described as "'Highly impressive ... a matchless and hugely entertaining display of dazzling choral singing'" by Gramophone Magazine. A second recording is planned for 2021, of music by the young alumnus of St John'

The Voices' web site, which contains more information, videos and recordings, is [www.stjohnsvoices.org](http://www.stjohnsvoices.org); their Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/stjohnsvoices/](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsvoices/) and they may also be found on Twitter and Instagram.

### **Choral Awards**

Choral awards are available to both undergraduates and postgraduates through the Intercollegiate Choral Awards scheme. Further information is available from:

Graham Walker, Musical Director, St John's Voices, [ghw22@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ghw22@cam.ac.uk)

## **THE COLLEGES**

Selwyn College was founded in 1882 in memory of Bishop George Augustus Selwyn, the first bishop of New Zealand. The Victorian-Gothic Old Court is home to many undergraduates, the dining hall, beautiful gardens, and one of the largest chapels in Cambridge. Two newer courts, Cripps (1960s, refurbished in 2014) and Ann's (2009) provide comfortable, modern, *en suite* student accommodation, and also include a brand new state-of-the-art auditorium and extensive library (both opened in the spring of 2021). The college community consists of approximately 400 undergraduates, 200 postgraduates, 70 fellows, and 100 non-academic staff. Selwyn alumni include actors Hugh Laurie and Tom Hollander (both Honorary Fellows, and both of whom have worked with the choir on various projects), the former Archbishops of York and of Wales, novelists Robert Harris and A. F. Steadman, comedian Viv Groskop, and musicians Sir David Lumsden, Grayston Ives, and Andrew Lawrence-King.

Newnham College, located just across the road from Selwyn, shares Selwyn's chapel. Newnham was founded in 1871 to further the education of women, and it is now a large and thriving women's college with about 600 students and 80 fellows. Its spacious and beautiful gardens include adjacent sports fields and tennis courts. Newnham's many eminent alumnae include writers Claire Tomalin and Germaine Greer, actress Emma Thompson, and BBC broadcasters Clare Balding and Sara Mohr-Pietsch, the latter of whom was the first holder of a Newnham choral scholarship.

Both colleges, each of which occupies its own single site, are located at what is now the geographical centre of the university, neighbouring the University Library and the humanities faculties in the Sidgwick Site. They are about a 10-minute walk to the centre of town in one direction, and to the maths department and West Cambridge Site in the other.

## **THE CHOIR**

Selwyn choir has led services in the college chapel since its foundation. For the first two-thirds of the twentieth century, chapel attendance was compulsory for all students. The then all-male choir of undergraduates was directed by the organ scholars and sang choral evensong every day. For occasional larger works, and on Sundays, the men borrowed sopranos and altos from Newnham. The mixed choir, formed in 1976 with the admission of women to Selwyn, now consists of up to twenty-eight choral scholars (called choral exhibitors at Selwyn), and the choir's link with Newnham continues to the present day. Most choir members are undergraduates or postgraduates at Selwyn or Newnham, with a few volunteers from other colleges, and they read a wide variety of subjects including Music, Classics, English, Natural Sciences, MML, and Engineering. During term, the choir sings three services per week, as well as concerts and services throughout the UK, recently in venues including Westminster Abbey, Lincoln, Norwich, Ely, Edinburgh, and St Paul's Cathedrals. Its broad and diverse repertoire ranges from the 10th to the 21st century, and every service includes at least one piece by a female composer. The choir is conducted by the director of music, and is administered by the choir administrative assistant, who is a member of college staff.

They have broadcast services for BBC radio, have sung live on television, and since September 2020, all choral services have been webcast on the chapel's popular YouTube channel. Every year the choir undertakes an international tour (recent destinations have included Canada, the States, New Zealand, Israel and Palestine, and various parts of continental Europe). In an on-going collaboration with London's John Armitage Memorial Trust, Selwyn choir has premiered major new works by some of the UK's leading composers, including Jonathan Dove, James MacMillan, Paul Mealar, Giles Swayne, Thea Musgrave, Gabriel Jackson, Paul Patterson, and Judith Bingham. Under the current director of music, the choir has made over 20 critically acclaimed commercial recordings. In partnership with Regent Records, they have made something of a niche for themselves recording single-living-composer discs, and have released several over the past decade, including discs of works by Paul Spicer, Paul Edwards, Gary Higginson, Phillip Cooke, John Hosking, Alan Bullard, Mark Gotham, Benjamin Ponniah, Iain Quinn, and Paul Ayres. Their release on the Regent label, *The Eternal Ecstasy*, a selection of British and American music by Cecilia McDowall, Paul Mealar, Eric Whitacre, Morten Lauridsen, and John Tavener, and other proponents of the so-called Choral Ecstatic Style, was featured as Classic FM recording of the week and spent three weeks in the top ten of the specialist charts. Forthcoming projects include a recording of the first volume of the ground-breaking anthology of sacred music composed by women, published in 2019 by Multitude of Voices.

## **THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Canadian Sarah MacDonald has been director of music at Selwyn since 1999, and is one of the longest-serving music directors in the university. Sarah was the first woman to hold such a post in an Oxbridge chapel, and she is well-known internationally as a conductor, organist, pianist, composer, and teacher. She supervises for the Music Tripos, and is an examiner for the Royal College of Organists. She also directs the girl choristers at Ely Cathedral.

## CHAPEL SERVICES & REHEARSALS, WEEKLY ROUTINE

As well as its normal routine (below) the choir sings for extra services such as carol services, various alumni events, and late-night complines, as well as for funerals and weddings, for which fees are sometimes paid. Extra commitments such as concerts, tours, and recordings take up to three or four weeks per year outside of Full Term. Choir members are accommodated free of charge in vacations when they are in residence for choir-related activities.

### Sundays

3:45pm-4:15pm soloists' rehearsal  
4:15pm-5:45pm full rehearsal  
6:00pm-7:00pm choral evensong

### Tuesdays and Thursdays

5:15pm-6:15pm rehearsal  
6:30pm-7:15pm choral evensong

## CHORAL EXHIBITIONS (SELWYN AND NEWNHAM)

Choral exhibitions are available in all voices at Selwyn, and for sopranos and contraltos at Newnham. There are no academic subject restrictions. Exhibitioners are appointed by the respective college councils for three years, through the inter-collegiate choral awards competition, are expected to give a full commitment to the choir, and are also encouraged to participate in college music more generally. As well as an annual financial stipend, all choral exhibitioners receive free singing lessons and termly vocal coaching. Selwyn students also receive a subsidy towards instrumental lessons. Most choir members study singing with Anita Morrison, Stuart MacIntyre, and Paul Badley, who teach in Selwyn's choir vestry. Students reading Music are provided with a piano in their room, and, when college instruments are available, some choral exhibitioners reading other subjects can be provided with pianos as well. The college provides a free evening meal with wine to all choir members after Sunday services, and half price formal hall during the week. Domestic and European tours are free to choir members; overseas tours are heavily subsidised (choir members are usually asked to contribute about 30% of the actual per person cost, though financial assistance is available to anyone who requires it).

## ORGAN SCHOLARSHIPS (SELWYN ONLY)

There are normally two organ scholars in residence, a junior and a senior, and their duties involve playing for all chapel services. In addition, organ scholars are paid competitive fees for weddings and funerals. The choir's accompanied repertoire includes the mainstream cathedral and collegiate repertoire and plenty of less well-known music. Organ voluntaries are required before and after each service (although often preludes on Tuesdays and Thursdays are improvised). The choir is conducted by the director of music, though the organ scholars rehearse and conduct the choir when the director of music is away, and also from time to time when she is not away, which gives an opportunity for training in choral conducting and rehearsal techniques. Organ scholars develop orchestral conducting skills in the music society's termly orchestral concerts.

The organ scholars are paid a stipend of £450 per year, and receive free organ lessons, which can be taken with any of Cambridge's visiting teachers, all of whom are well-known recitalists (Gordon Stewart, William Whitehead, Stephen Farr, and Anne Page, among others). A subsidy for singing, conducting, or other instrumental lessons is also available. Both organ scholars are provided with a piano in their rooms.

Selwyn chapel houses two organs. The main organ is a magnificent mechanical action instrument on the west end gallery with 30 stops over three manuals and pedals, built by the renowned Québec firm Orgues Létourneau Ltée, and inaugurated in 2005. The specification can be found on the college web site. In 2010 we received a gift from an alumnus of a beautiful three-stop chamber organ built for the college by Kenneth Tickell. There is also a single manual Stephen Morris harpsichord, built in 1985, and an outstanding Model C Steinway in the dining hall. The college also owns about 18 upright pianos.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find out more about our current activities, as well as hear the choir in live services from the past academic year (we carried on singing throughout the pandemic) on our various social media channels, the addresses of which are below. In addition, the director of music is always pleased to hear directly from prospective choral and organ scholars, so do feel free to get in touch.

**YouTube** [www.youtube.com/selwyncollegechapel](http://www.youtube.com/selwyncollegechapel)  
**Facebook** [www.facebook.com/selwyn.college.choir](http://www.facebook.com/selwyn.college.choir)

**Instagram** @Selwyn1882  
**Twitter** @Selwyn1882

Ms Sarah MacDonald MA FRCO ARSCM  
**Telephone** 01223 335 877  
**Email** [seam100@cam.ac.uk](mailto:seam100@cam.ac.uk)

### **College Music**

Sidney Sussex rose from the ruins of the Cambridge Greyfriars in 1596 and has long been a nest for professional musicians. Indeed the large chapel that stood on this site in pre-Reformation times was the regular venue for University ceremonies and was the venue where a number of early English composers took their degrees, including Robert Fayrfax (MusB, 1501; DMus 1504) and Christopher Tye (MusB, 1536). One of the earliest musicians in the College was the Royalist pamphleteer, author, and violist Roger L'Estrange (1616-1704), whose family were patrons of the composer John Jenkins. Earlier still, the great Elizabethan composer William Byrd would have been well-known to the foundress, Lady Frances Sidney, and indeed two very fine elegies by Byrd survive for her nephew, the poet and courtier Sir Philip Sidney. Currently resident in the College is Dr Christopher Page (1991), founder and former director of the multi-award-winning Gothic Voices, and Dr David Skinner (2006) who is a cofounder of The Cardinal's Musick, director of the early music consort Alamire ([www.alamire.co.uk](http://www.alamire.co.uk)), and Sidney's first Director of Music.

### **Organ Scholarships**

There are normally two organ scholars in residence at Sidney Sussex, and they work alongside the Director of Music and a mixed choir of some 24-26 singers. The Choir, which tours two to three times a year and regularly tours and home and abroad, is a major focus of College life. Organ Scholars receive an annual stipend of £450 and free organ and singing lessons. Other 'perks' include free national and international tours, Choir formals, and a number of social events throughout the academic year.

### **The Instruments**

There are four keyboard instruments in the Chapel. The main organ from the Dutch firm Flentrop (2016); it replaced an earlier instrument by Harrison & Harrison. The stand-up positive chamber organ by Taylor & Boody (2013) is one of the finest instruments of its type, and was specifically built for earlier repertoire (A=465, and temperament is fifth comma meantone after Norden). The Chapel also houses a 'Bach' harpsichord after Michael Mietke (Berlin, 1710), built by Huw Saunders in 2010 and our piano is a Steinway Model D (1984; restored and refinished, 2011). For further information and specs of the instruments, please visit: <https://www.sidneysussexchoir.org/chapel-instruments>

### **The Commitment**

Sidney is an ideal choir for those who cannot commit to a daily singing routine, but are still keen to make music at the highest level. The regular term-time commitments are as follows:

Sundays: 4.45pm rehearsal for 6.00pm Choral Evensong  
One Tuesday per term: 7.45pm rehearsal for 9.00pm Compline  
Wednesdays: 5.15pm rehearsal for 6.30pm Latin Choral Vespers or other musical event  
Thursdays: 6.00pm-7.00pm rehearsal  
Fridays: 5.15pm rehearsal for 6.30pm Choral Evensong

Extra rehearsals are occasionally arranged at the beginning of the academic year, and for recordings, tours, and special College events.

### **Concerts, Recordings & Tours**

The Choir regularly performs at home and abroad and has made a niche in making professional recordings for specialist markets, including museums, art galleries, and national libraries. Their first recording with the early music label Obsidian ([www.obsidianrecords.co.uk](http://www.obsidianrecords.co.uk)), Thomas Tomkins 'These Distracted Times', was awarded Editor's Choice and CD of the Month in Gramophone magazine, and they have since gone on to record and tour a number of innovative programmes. Their CD of music by Thomas Weelkes, was nominated for a Gramophone Award in 2013. The Choir tours two to three times per year, and has recently visited Italy, Spain, Germany, Holland, Dubai and Jordan. The Choir also tours the USA once every three years; California and Las Vegas in 2012, the East Coast in 2015, when we made our Carnegie Hall debut, and the most recent USA tour included performances in Washington DC, Staunton Virginia, Alexandria, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, Cape COD, Provincetown and Boston. The Choir will tour Rome and the Italian Riviera in 2018-2019. We make an annual pilgrimage to Rome, where we perform in all four of the great basilicas including St Peter's, Vatican City. The Choir featured the music of Tomas Luis de Victoria live on BBC Choral Evensong, in the form of its popular Latin Choral Vespers, in Easter Week 2011, and is regularly featured on radio and other media.

**Repertoire**

Sidney Choir performs a wide range of music from late medieval to newly commissioned works. The Choir excels primarily in music of the 16th and 17th centuries (the research specialism of the Director of Music) and the late 19th/ early 20th centuries, but endeavours to maintain a healthy balance of music from all periods. Organ and Choral Scholars are invited to offer suggestions for the music lists, and we often perform works written especially for the Choir by members of the Sidney community and beyond.

**Mixing with Professionals**

Sidney is one of the few colleges in Cambridge to annually host a professional musician or ensemble in residence. The first incumbent in 2007 was the viol consort Fretwork, and in 2008 we welcomed the gothic and renaissance harpist Andrew Lawrence-King. The College's Composer in Residence from 2010-2015 was the American composer Eric Whitacre. The Tippett Quartet was in residence in 2012, while the internationally acclaimed organist Stephen Farr held the post in 2013-14. Our current Composer in Residence is Joanna Marsh. The College also regularly spotlights a number of professional musicians who work alongside members of the Choir, and provide very useful connections for music-making in the wider world.

The Director of Music is always happy to hear potential candidates throughout the academic year.

**For further information, please contact:**

Robin Datta, Music Administrator

Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge CB2 3HU

Email: [MusicAdministrator@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:MusicAdministrator@sid.cam.ac.uk) | [www.sidneysussexchoir.org](http://www.sidneysussexchoir.org)

Office Hours: 9am – 5pm, Weds – Fri

01223 338832

**TRINITY COLLEGE**  
**[www.trin.cam.ac.uk](http://www.trin.cam.ac.uk)**

Trinity College's long and distinguished choral tradition dates back to the fourteenth century, when former Chapel Royal choristers studied in King's Hall, which later became part of Trinity College. Today's mixed-voice choir of around 30 Choral Scholars and two Organ Scholars has established itself as one of the leading mixed-voice choirs in the world ([www.trinitycollegechoir.com](http://www.trinitycollegechoir.com)).

Trinity's Director of Music is the conductor Stephen Layton ([www.stephenlayton.com](http://www.stephenlayton.com)). He is also Founder and Director of Polyphony and Music Director of the Holst Singers. Former posts include Chief Conductor of Netherlands Chamber Choir, Chief Guest Conductor of Danish National Vocal Ensemble, Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of City of London Sinfonia. He guest conducts a number of orchestras around the world, resulting in regular collaborations for Trinity Choir with orchestras such as the Britten Sinfonia, the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, and the Academy of Ancient Music.

The Choir's main focus during term is the singing of services in the College Chapel. Choral Evensong takes place on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. During the course of these services, the Choir explores a wide-ranging repertoire drawn from both Catholic and Protestant traditions. Music of all ages is sung and, in recent years, the Choir has collaborated with a number of contemporary composers and given many world premiere performances.

An important additional duty for the Choir is to sing at the six annual College feasts. Other traditional events include Singing from the Towers, when the Choir and Cambridge University Brass Ensemble perform from the three towers in Great Court; and Singing on the River, when the Choir sings from punts moored on the river. These events provide an opportunity for the Choir to explore a range of secular repertoire, from madrigals and partsongs to close harmony.

The Choir is socially rich and diverse. This is partly due to the range of academic subjects read by Choral Scholars – Natural Sciences, Maths, Engineering, Law, Theology, English, MML, Music etc. – as well as the range of backgrounds from which members come.

### **Tours and Concerts**

Outside term, the Choir's programme of performances and recordings recently included BBC broadcasts of Bach's *B Minor Mass* and *Christmas Oratorio* with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment in London and Cambridge, Haydn's *Nelson Mass* with the City of London Sinfonia in Aldeburgh and Cambridge, Poulenc's *Gloria* with Britten Sinfonia in Norwich Cathedral, and Handel's *Dettingen Te Deum* with the Academy of Ancient Music in London and Cambridge.

An ambitious programme of tours has taken the Choir to destinations including the USA and Canada, Australia, South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Japan, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Peru, as well as to many European cities. Recent concerts in North America include sold-out performances at the National Conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the Royal Canadian College of Organists, and a concert in New York to commemorate the anniversary of 9/11. The Choir has also undertaken two month-long nationwide tours of Australia as part of the Musica Viva International Concert Season.

Whenever the Choir is required outside term, food and accommodation are provided free of charge in College and travel expenses are covered if a special journey is required. Tours are also undertaken at no cost to the individual Choral Scholar.

### **Recordings and Broadcasts**

Recent additions to the Choir's extensive discography on the Hyperion label include Howells' *Collegium Regale*, which won Australia's Limelight Recording of the Year in 2016; Howells' *Requiem & other works*, which won a Gramophone Award in 2012; and *Beyond All Mortal Dreams*, settings of contemporary American a cappella music, which was nominated for a US Grammy Award in the same year. Five of the Choir's recordings have been nominated for Gramophone Awards, including two releases from 2015: *Northern Lights*, a recording of the choral music of the Latvian composer Eriks Ešēnavals, and Kenneth Leighton's *Crucifixus & other works*. The most recent releases are a recording of the music of Owain Park, former Organ Scholar at Trinity, about which Gramophone said 'it is inconceivable that these pieces could be performed better; the choral sound is sumptuous', and a record of Finzi choral works described as an 'outstanding release'.

All services from Trinity College Chapel are webcast live on YouTube and are available to listen again on the Choir website. A searchable archive of over 6,000 musical tracks recorded live in services over the last few years is available on the website ([www.trinitycollegechoir.com/webcasts/](http://www.trinitycollegechoir.com/webcasts/)).



## **Choral Scholarships**

Choral Scholars need to be enthusiastic and committed. The weekly schedule of rehearsals and services during term leaves ample time for Choral Scholars to pursue their academic studies fully, as well as to involve themselves in other activities. In addition to their choral award, Choral Scholars receive three free dinners each week, and are entitled to free vocal tuition – weekly during term – from visiting professional teachers such as Ann De Renais, Sheila Barnes, Roderick Earle and James Oldfield.

The Choir is open to all students except those studying Medicine or Veterinary Medicine. Good sight reading skills are an advantage, but not essential, as there is plenty of time to prepare music in advance. Applicants with little church singing experience should also not be discouraged.

## **Organ Scholarships**

Trinity always has two Organ Scholars in residence. Their duties are twofold: to accompany and to conduct services. In addition to their annual scholarship, Organ Scholars receive free organ tuition (with Colin Walsh, David Briggs and Stephen Farr) and three free dinners a week. A special annual bequest allows them to build up their own library of organ music.

Organ Scholars study choral conducting with Stephen Layton and have the opportunity to work with him on projects in Cambridge and beyond. Frequently in demand as recitalists, accompanists, and conductors, Trinity Organ Scholars play a prominent role in the artistic life of the College and University. After graduating, many have taken up important positions, both sacred and secular, in the musical world.

Trinity College Chapel's renowned organ was built by Metzler Orgelbau of Zürich in 1975, who restored the original cases and surviving pipework of the organs installed by Father Smith in 1694 (Rückpositiv) and 1708 (Hauptwerk). The action is mechanical. The College also has a chamber organ, built by Robin Jennings, which is used as a continuo instrument for services and concerts, and a practice organ built by Manders.

## **Music in College**

Trinity is a very active College musically. Trinity College Music Society runs an orchestra and a chorus, and arranges a large number of concerts and recitals each term. There are six music practice rooms next to the Chapel, each with a piano and one with a harpsichord, which can be booked by members of the college. In the Chapel there is a Steinway D piano and a harpsichord, and a further seven grand pianos are available in College for pianists. Choral Scholars also have access to electronic pianos which can be loaned, free of charge, for use in individual rooms.

## **Further information**

Stephen Layton is pleased to meet and hear prospective candidates for Choral or Organ Scholarships at any time of year. These informal meetings provide an opportunity to ask further questions about life as a member of the Choir and Trinity in general. To arrange an appointment, please call 01223 761732 or email: [music@trin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:music@trin.cam.ac.uk)

**[www.trinitycollegechoir.com](http://www.trinitycollegechoir.com)**

[music@trin.cam.ac.uk](mailto:music@trin.cam.ac.uk)

**TRINITY HALL**  
**www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk**

Founded in 1350, Trinity Hall is the fifth-oldest college in Cambridge and is home to a wonderfully intimate college chapel which provides a beautiful atmosphere for music and worship.

### **The Chapel Choir**

Trinity Hall Chapel Choir is made up of around 24 men and women who sing for services each Thursday and Sunday throughout Full Term. The music undertaken by the choir covers the typical 'cathedral' repertoire from medieval plainchant to new commissions. Whilst the level of time commitment is comparatively low, the choir sings to a very high standard. Recent students have described the experience of singing in the choir as 'welcoming', 'inclusive' and 'without doubt, the highlight of my years at Cambridge...an experience I would recommend to anyone with a passion for choral music'.

A typical weekly schedule for the choir runs as follows:

- **Wednesday:** Sectional Rehearsals: 5.30pm-6.30pm (Lower voices) & 6.30pm-7.30pm (Upper voices)
- **Thursday:** 5.45pm-7.15pm – Rehearsal, followed by free Formal Hall & Sung Compline at 9.15pm
- **Sunday:** 4.00pm-7.00pm – Rehearsal & Choral Evensong, followed by free Formal Hall

Alongside these regular rehearsals and services, the choir sings for other important liturgical and college occasions throughout the year, as well as making visits to English Cathedrals and undertaking foreign tours – destinations for which have included North America, Canada, France, Italy, Belgium, Czechoslovakia and Germany.

### **Recordings**

The choir records quite regularly and, in recent years, has combined forces with the College's professional period-instrument Ensemble-in-Residence, *Orpheus Britannicus* and has released, to great critical acclaim, discs of Verse Anthems and Services by Henry Purcell, entitled 'The English Orpheus', Dieterich Buxtehude's great Passiontide cantata-cycle 'Membra Jesu nostri' and Jacobean Verse anthems and services, alongside the viol consort *Newe Vialles* entitled 'See, see the Word is incarnate'.

For further details of recordings from Trinity Hall, please visit: <https://www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/product-category/media/>

### **Choral Scholarships**

Trinity Hall is a member of the intercollegiate choral award scheme, allowing the choir to combine choral scholars appointed at the University Choral Trials alongside singers auditioned upon arrival as 'freshers' (both from Trinity Hall and from other colleges). Choral scholarships carry with them the standard University award of £100 per year, as well as free formal dinners on Thursdays & Sundays throughout Full Term, free singing lessons with the college's superb visiting professional teacher, choral workshops with a professional choir and heavily subsidised choir tours. In addition to their wider role as members of the larger chapel choir, Choral Scholars at Trinity Hall have opportunity to sing together as a small-scale vocal consort in their own right, both in service and concert situations.

### **The Chapel Organ**

In 2006, Trinity Hall inaugurated a superb new chapel organ, built by the Danish organ builder Carsten Lund. The instrument has twenty stops over two manuals and pedal, with mechanical key action and mechanical/electric stop action. Beautifully voiced for the College's intimate chapel, the instrument has proven to be remarkably versatile, equally at home in a solo or accompanying role and enabling the Organ Scholars to practise and perform a wide range of repertoire. Described in the musical press as 'an organ of rarified conceptual coherence', this is the first organ to be built in the UK by Carsten Lund, whose firm has been met with unanimous praise and whose new instruments have been described as 'musically and visually striking' and as 'a brilliant combination of traditional and new methods of organ building'. A full specification of the instrument, together with details of recordings and reviews can be found at <http://www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/about/music/facilities/>

## **Organ Scholarships**

In line with all other colleges within the University, the value of the organ scholarship at Trinity Hall is currently £450 per year and organ lessons are paid for entirely by the college. These can be taken with any of Cambridge's internationally renowned visiting teachers or any other approved teachers. In addition, Organ Scholars are offered free singing lessons with the College's superb visiting professional teacher and are accommodated in a fine set of rooms in the centre of college for three years, equipped with an excellent piano. Formal Dinner is also provided free of charge after all chapel services throughout term. Other benefits include a reduced room rent and unlimited use of the College's keyboard instruments.

Whilst the Director of Music will typically conduct the majority of services each term, his role is also to offer professional advice and guidance (including lessons in choral accompaniment, conducting and rehearsal technique) and the Organ Scholars (typically two in residence) are given opportunity to direct the choir in rehearsals and services, and to take much responsibility for the day to day running of the music in chapel in consultation with the Director of Music and the Dean. In addition to the choral services outlined above, the organ scholars are also required to play for a short service of communion each Sunday morning during term, that involves playing hymns and voluntaries, and additional, occasional services such as weddings and memorial services for which additional fees are paid.

## **Music at Trinity Hall**

Outside of the life of the Chapel, Music plays a very important role at Trinity Hall. Organ and Choral Scholars can offer a significant contribution, whether as officers on the Music Society Committee or as performers. The College's thriving Music Society presents an eclectic, regular recital series throughout the academic year as well as occasionally organizing larger-scale events such as Musicals and orchestral concerts. In addition to these student-run events, the college supports a series of professional master classes and concerts, the former offering unique opportunities to Trinity Hall students to engage with professional musicians in the context of 'open' rehearsals, workshops and master classes .

The college is fortunate in having a purpose-built music room which houses a fine Kawai grand piano, a brilliant double-manual harpsichord by Andrew Garlick (after Goujon, 1748), a drum kit, electric piano and various amps. There is also a Steinway Model B grand piano in the Master's Lodge, in which beautiful setting a number of the student recitals take place.

In 2021, the College opened a stunning new state-of-the-art rehearsal and performance space, primarily for the Chapel Choir, named the WongAvery Music Gallery and designed by the award-winning firm, Níall McLaughlin Architects.

## **For further information or to arrange a visit to Trinity Hall, please contact:**

Andrew Arthur

Fellow, Director of Music & Director of Studies in Music

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[www.andrewarthur.com](http://www.andrewarthur.com)