



## The Graham Rogers Organ Scholarship 2019-20

The Chapter of Chelmsford Cathedral wishes to appoint an Organ Scholar for the academic year 2019-20. The Scholarship is named after the late Graham Rogers, a benefactor of the Cathedral and its music, and is suitable for a graduate or experienced gap-year organist, offering a unique learning opportunity to gain experience as a cathedral organist. Working as part of a dedicated and supportive music team in a cathedral serving one of England's largest Anglican dioceses, the Organ Scholar plays a key role in the delivery of the *Opus Dei*.

Chelmsford Cathedral is an elegant perpendicular building with a magnificent "Gothic" ceiling of 1801. It was reordered and refurbished in 1983, giving it a surprisingly light and spacious interior. The Cathedral also serves a parish, and as a result there is a variety of worship offered. It is sited at the top of the High Street at the heart of the city and the community. Chelmsford is the county town of Essex and has recently been granted city status. It has excellent schools, shopping facilities and a University. There are frequent trains to London (journey time approximately 35 minutes).

The scholarship is normally offered for a period of one year (renewable by agreement) and is currently worth £4500 (net) with accommodation provided in a house shared with the Cathedral's Choral Scholars. A further bursary of up to £750 is provided towards the cost of organ lessons and occasional singing lessons are provided by the resident singing teacher Colin Baldy. From time to time, the organ scholar may be required to play for weddings, funerals and other extra services for which additional fees are normally payable. There are also opportunities for being involved in music within the town and for private teaching. It is expected that the Organ Scholar will play a full role in the daily life of the department and wider cathedral community. The successful candidate will have a good sense of initiative and be able to work in a flexible manner, responding to the changing needs of the music department with diligence and good humour. It is possible to combine the scholarship with study at university or conservatoire, although this requires scrupulous organisation to work satisfactorily.

The Organ Scholar is expected to attend all Cathedral Services and rehearsals where the Cathedral Choir or Girls' Choir is present. He/she will have opportunities to develop key skills including choral accompaniment, rehearsing and conducting choirs, and playing organ repertoire in recitals and at services, including recitals before the Advent Procession and Festivals of Nine Lessons & Carols. The Organ Scholar will also normally give one of the lunchtime concerts during the year. The Organ Scholar is normally the principal organist for the weekly Parish Eucharist and is expected to play congregational mass settings, hymns and voluntaries, and to rehearse the Cantor. He/she is normally the principal accompanist to the Girls' Choir and plays for the ATB Evensong every other Thursday.

The Organ Scholar is usually offered the position of rehearsal accompanist to the Chelmsford Singers, a local mixed-voice choir directed by James Davy, for which separate fees is payable.

Recent Organ Scholars have gone on to further scholarships or assistantships at other cathedrals and universities including Keble College and Christ Church Oxford and York, Norwich, Newcastle and St Edmundsbury Cathedrals.

The present regular musical commitments for the Organ Scholar are:

Monday	7.50 - 8.35 4.00 - 6.00	Boys' rehearsal (Song School) Rehearsal & Evensong (Boys)
Tuesday	7.40 - 8.20 4.00 - 6.00 6.10 - 7.00	Girls' rehearsal (Song School) Rehearsal & Evensong (Girls) Girls' rehearsal
Wednesday		Normally the organ scholar's day off
Thursday	7.50 - 8.35 4.00 - 6.00	Boys' rehearsal Rehearsal & Evensong (Full or ATB)
Friday	7.50 - 8.35 9.30 - 11.00 4.00 - 6.00 4.00 - 5.00 6.00 - 7.00	Boys' rehearsal Music department meeting Rehearsal & Evensong (Full) Theory tuition for Girls' Choir ATB rehearsal
Saturday	10.00 - 11.30 4.00 - 6.00	Junior girls' rehearsal (once a month) <i>Rehearsal &amp; Evensong (Full) *</i>
Sunday	9.30 10.15 - 12.30 2.40 - 4.30	Parish Eucharist Rehearsal & Eucharist or Mattins (Full) Rehearsal & Evensong (Full)

*\*The choir is normally free from duties on at least one or two Saturdays per month. From time to time weddings, concerts and other choir events take place. Seasonal changes to this pattern are notified a half-term in advance.*

### **The Music Staff**

The Canon for Worship & Music	The Revd Canon Alison Kennedy
Organist & Master of the Choristers	James Davy
Assistant Organist & Director of the Girls' Choir	Laurence Lyndon-Jones
Choir Matron	Keren Hollier
Music & Liturgy Assistant	Stephanie Brasier

**The Cathedral Choir** of boys and adults provides the music at the majority of Cathedral services. Boys are recruited from a variety of local schools and the back row comprises a mix of paid lay clerks, choral scholars and deputies, and volunteer Singing Men.

**The Cathedral Girls' Choir** was formed in 1999 and is directed by the Assistant Organist. Singing regularly for Evensongs and occasional Eucharists on Tuesday evening, the girls join with the back rows of the choir for at least one Sunday's services per term, and at various special services in the church's year including the Midnight Eucharist on Christmas Eve and the Epiphany Carol Service.

### **Choral Conducting and Singing**

The Organ Scholar is encouraged to sing with the back row of the choir from time to time and will have opportunities to conduct the choirs as appropriate. Some singing lessons with the Choral Scholars' singing teacher are provided as part of the scholarship.

### **The Organs**

The Nave Organ is situated at the west end of the cathedral under the Tower. It is a four-manual instrument with mechanical action built by NP Mander in 1994. The Chancel Organ, also by Mander, is a two-manual mechanical instrument incorporating 19th century pipework by Holdich and Hill. Principally used to accompany the choir, it is widely admired for its warmth of tone, character and versatility. The Nave Organ's Great, Swell, Solo and Pedal divisions are playable via an electric link from the Chancel Organ console.

The organs are generally available for practice in the evening and daytime practice time is booked into the Cathedral diary on weekdays. Other organs in the city may be available for practice by arrangement. The Cathedral Song School houses a Yamaha Grand Piano which can also be used for practice or teaching.

**Applications** should be supported by the names of three referees, including

- A priest
- Your current organ teacher
- Someone who has known you for at least two years

Please send a letter of application and CV (including your e-mail address) to:

The Organist and Master of the Choristers,  
Cathedral Office,  
53 New Street,  
Chelmsford,  
CM1 1TY

Or by email to: [music@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](mailto:music@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk)

To discuss informally any aspect of the scholarship, please contact James Davy by email at [james.davy@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](mailto:james.davy@chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk)

The application deadline is Noon on **Monday 24 September 2018**. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted on the following day. Interviews and auditions will be held during the week commencing **Monday 1 October**. **If this will present a problem, please let us know when applying.**

The Cathedral website can be found at: [chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk](http://chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk)