CATHEDRAL MUSIC
at Christ Church
Securing the future of the Choir
Since 1546, the Choir has been set apart from all other collegiate and cathedral choirs since it serves both an Oxford college and a diocese, at the same time, in a unique and celebrated dual foundation.

Given the significant financial pressures currently placed on arts and education in the UK, it will come as no surprise that English choral foundations are now in danger of erosion. Protecting the future of music at Christ Church Cathedral will be largely dependent upon the generosity of Members and Friends in supporting the choir for generations to come.

The Choir of Christ Church, Oxford, was founded nearly 500 years ago and has a special and distinctive place within the great English choral tradition.

The Christ Church Cathedral Music Trust was established in 2013 to ensure the survival and success of the choir by:

1. Preserving, in perpetuity, a tradition of the best choral music at Christ Church, through endowment of 60% of its total cost.

2. Within that target, increasing scholarship funding for Choristers to 100% of school fees, ensuring that cost is no impediment to singing at Christ Church.

3. Supporting, in partnership with the Friends of Christ Church, ancillary projects befitting a choir of such quality.
A CHOIR ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

The current major aim of the Trust is to give children from all walks of life the opportunity to be a chorister. In order to achieve this goal, we still need to raise a substantial amount to endow the remaining majority of choristerships. This endowment would ensure ‘needs-blind’ access for the most talented to join the Choir, greatly widening the cultural and educational reach of Christ Church and bringing choral music to the lives of many new families and communities.

Our goal is to ensure that no one is excluded from being a part of the Cathedral Choir due to financial need.

STEPHEN DARLINGTON AT CHRIST CHURCH

This year marks the conclusion of Dr Stephen Darlington’s significant tenure of thirty-three years as Choirmaster, Organist and Tutor. During this illustrious period the Choir has gone from strength to strength, travelling the globe on numerous international tours, recording upwards of fifty albums, undertaking countless TV and radio appearances, and performing at the highest level in festivals and concert halls throughout the world.

However, this international acclaim has never overshadowed the important primary role of singing services in the Cathedral, and it is this superb legacy of devotion to the choral foundation that Stephen will leave to his successors.
MAKING IT HAPPEN
The Choir costs Christ Church over £500,000 annually, and it will take another £10m to endow in perpetuity.

Below are the individual costs for various components of the Choir’s activities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choristership</td>
<td>£212k to endow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Stephen Darlington Organ Scholarship</td>
<td>£63.5k to endow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choral or Organ Scholarship</td>
<td>£63.5k to endow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lay Clerkship</td>
<td>£185k to endow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir tours</td>
<td>£50k per tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Choir recordings</td>
<td>£15k per recording</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please give whatever you are able; every gift will help to achieve these goals. Please give generously to help preserve the Christ Church Choir for the next 500 years.

For further information:
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