



St. Pauls Church, Mill Hill

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Organ Scholarship Information

2010-2011

St Paul's Church

St Paul's is a parish church in the West Barnet Deanery located just 10 miles from central London. It is situated in the delightful surroundings of Mill Hill Village and a 'Blue Plaque' on the west wall commemorates the building of the church in 1833, by the great statesman William Wilberforce. The church has recently undergone a £2.1 million restoration and re-ordering project completed in June 2008, and this included the restoration and substantial refurbishment of the 2-manual Compton organ by Sixsmith and Co Ltd. at the cost of £110,000.00. Organ scholars also have a 1986 2-manual tracker action organ by Mander available for their use.

The Organ Scholarship

- *The Organ Scholarship will provide excellent opportunities to develop skills in organ playing, accompaniment, and choir training within a supportive musical environment*
- *The Organ Scholarship will provide a suitable training to enable candidates to undertake an Organ Scholarship as part of their intended Higher education*

Significant opportunities exist for personal and musical development for an Organ Scholar at St Paul's in terms of solo performance, accompanying, choir training and direction, within a traditional Anglican Church music environment. The current post holder has held the position for 3 years whilst studying at the Haberdashers' Askes School for Girls and will take up a place at The Queen's College, Oxford in September of this year.

The Parish enjoys supporting our young musicians and are keen that a successor should be appointed to ensure the on-going high standard of music making and training. The appointment is initially for a period of 1 year and may be renewed annually on the recommendation of the Director of Music. It is anticipated that potential scholars will wish to be applying for further study in music at university level in the long term, and most likely will wish to combine this with an organ scholarship. Training offered

by the Director of Music and church is very much with this and the development of the necessary skills in mind. The scholar will participate in the church's musical life in accordance with the traditions of St Paul's and under the direction of the Director of Music.

The choir and music at St Paul's

Music at St Paul's is thriving. We have a traditional four part choir which is currently comprised of 28 singers. The choir sings an anthem at the weekly morning service and also prepares major works for feast days. Recent repertoire includes Haydn's *Little Organ Mass*, the Fauré, Rutter and Mozart settings of the *Requiem Mass* and Stainer's *Crucifixion*. The choir performs a wide variety of music from all genres, with the junior choristers often performing on their own, and the choir regularly invites other local singers to participate in projects and joint services to form a "Festival Choir". The choir has undertaken Cathedral trips and tours to Dublin and venues in England and junior choristers participate in the RSCM's Voice for life programme regularly attending workshops and residential courses. The choir enjoys taking part in deanery choir festivals in both local churches and at our home cathedral, St Paul's, and opportunities for the organ scholar to be involved in these events are extensive. The previous Head Chorister was a finalist in the BBC Radio 2 Chorister of the Year in 2005 and the current organ scholar has been appointed to the Organ Scholarship at The Queen's College, Oxford, to read Music. There is a programme of instrumental concerts organised in the church from time to time and the choir takes a high profile within the church's life. The Director of Music (2001) is Tansy Castledine MA., MMus., ARCO.

Responsibilities and duties of the Organ Scholar

The duties will be agreed each year with the Director of Music as they may vary according to age and gifts and musical talents of the scholar. The award is currently open to organists of all

levels and ages. As a basic outline, the Organ Scholar will be expected to –

- Play for choir practices each Tuesday* to prepare for the Sunday services, as directed by the Director of Music
- Play for 3 / 4 Sunday mornings per month, and for the 5th Sunday when there is one, as agreed in advance with the Director of Music
- Play for the monthly Choral Evensong as directed by the Director of Music
- Play for the following feast days; Christmas Eve and Day, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Day, Confirmation Service
- Assist in the direction of the Junior Choir
- Direct the full choir where appropriate
- Deputise for the Director of Music at services with advance notice

*NB

There is usually a 2 week break from Tuesday rehearsals after Christmas and Easter, and there are no Tuesday rehearsals from mid-July to early September.

The Organ Scholarship award

The award will comprise –

- The title, *Organ Scholar, St Paul's Church, Mill Hill*
- An honorarium of £1050pa
- One Sunday off per month (to be agreed in advance)
- Up to 4 further weeks holiday leave annually (dates to be agreed in advance with the Director of Music)
- For suitable candidates, fees for extra services such as weddings and funerals
- For suitable candidates, opportunities to work with other choirs with whom the Director of Music works for professional fees
- Use of the organs at St Paul's Church, and the Chapel of Mill Hill School for unlimited practice time, subject to service times

In addition, the Director of Music is available to teach the Organ Scholar should they not already be studying with a teacher, or should they wish to change teacher. Whilst this can be advantageous to the scholar in many ways, this is not a condition of the appointment.

Organists interested in the award should contact the Director of Music in the first instance;

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