

St Botolph's, Cambridge, is looking to appoint a director of music with effect from 1st April 2023 to succeed Tim Brown, Director of Music Emeritus, Clare College, who has been interim Director of Music at St Botolph's since September 2019.

St Botolph's is firmly committed to the Book of Common Prayer, and the PCC and congregation are strongly supportive of its choral tradition as part of this. The successful candidate will be a competent organist, capable of leading a congregation that enjoys singing the psalms, canticles, the Merbecke Communion Service and hymns, as well as accompanying and directing an active, enthusiastic and increasingly strong non-auditioned choir, that sings both Mattins and Eucharists, both to Anglican chant and to polyphonic settings of the mass on a weekly basis. Special services throughout the year give the choir opportunities to sing a wide range of music; recent performances ~~of~~ have included the Fauré and Duruflé Requiems and Stainer's *Crucifixion*, as well as seasonal carol services and occasional choral evensongs. The choir regularly musters between 10 and 20 singers for a Sunday service, and more for special events.

Candidates should be prepared to cover the services throughout the year, taking responsibility for finding substitute organists if they are away. The choir is not expected to sing during the month of August. The Director of Music takes responsibility for the administration of the choir, and for the maintenance of the organ, which is a fine two-manual instrument from 1888 by Nicholson's of Worcester. It is tuned and maintained by Norman Hall & Sons of Cambridge. It will require some work in the not-too-distant future.

The church recently acquired a fine Boston grand piano, for which funds are being raised to complete its purchase by the spring of 2024. A series of concerts is run by the current Director of Music, who hopes to be associated with fund-raising activities until the piano fund reaches its target.

St Botolph's is proud of its music and will look for an active musician to build its growing reputation for musical activities. The position of Director of Music is ideal for someone who would like to use the church, which boasts a fine acoustic for live music, as a base for establishing an instrumental or choral ensemble; the building is increasingly used for rehearsals by local music ensembles.

The church itself sits firmly within the Prayer Book tradition; the Sunday service is at 11am, and on all but the third Sunday is a Sung Eucharist; the third Sunday is Sung Mattins. Choral Evensongs are arranged to suit the availability of the Director of Music and choir, and takes place every six weeks or so at 4.30 pm. Currently there is only one choir practice per week, prior to the Sunday morning service, usually at 9.30 or 9.45am. Service music is chosen with this in mind, though parts are sent out electronically four or five days in advance. The choir sings the standard parish church/cathedral repertoire and has given several 1st performances over the past three years.

Remuneration

What is offered is £8,000 per annum, payable monthly in arrears, plus fees for weddings and funerals. £1,000 per annum has been earmarked by the PCC to pay for an organ scholar, who is likely to be associated with the university and hence mostly available in term time. The new Director of Music will take the lead on this appointment. A further £1,000 is allocated for music, administrative support etc. The Director of Music will have a holiday allowance of six Sundays a year, to be arranged by mutual agreement. The Director of Music may use the church to give private music tuition, by arrangement with the Rector.

Informal enquiries are welcome, either to the Rector, Jonathan Collis, on jonathan.collis@cantab.net (tel: 01223 351326) or to the current interim director of music, Tim Brown, on tcb21@cam.ac.uk.

Interviews are expected to take place on Friday 3rd March 2023. Applications should take the form of a covering letter describing how the role would be seen and fulfilled, a CV, and details of two referees, one of whom should be a member of the clergy, and confirmation of whether they could be contacted before interview. Applications should be sent to the Rector by 6pm on Friday 17th February. The post is subject to enhanced DBS disclosure.