


# CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL PLATINUM ENDOWMENT TRUST FOR MUSIC

Securing the future of music at  
Chichester Cathedral





“The wonderful  
music at Chichester  
Cathedral helps us  
to connect with the  
presence of God.”

The Duchess of Richmond  
and Gordon, Patron (Pictured)

**Patron:**

The Duchess of Richmond  
and Gordon

**Vice-Patrons:**

Sir John Rutter  
Kate Mosse CBE  
Rachel Portman OBE

**Chichester Cathedral Platinum  
Endowment Trust for Music**  
c/o Chichester Cathedral  
Restoration & Development Trust CIO  
The Royal Chantry, The Cloisters,  
Chichester, PO19 1PX

Financial information correct as  
of February 2025

# The Power of Music

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For over 900 years, music has been the soul of Chichester Cathedral, inspiring worship and connecting communities. This brochure highlights how you can help secure the future of this cherished tradition through the Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Trust for Music. With opportunities for match funding and chorister sponsorship, your support can make a lasting impact, helping to preserve the cathedral's musical legacy for generations to come.

**“A cathedral without music is like  
a body without a soul.”**

Sir John Rutter, Vice-Patron

Chichester Cathedral's renowned choir, led by a dedicated team of musicians, performs a diverse repertoire spanning seven centuries. The choir's unique “Chichester Sound,” a harmonious blend of tradition and innovation, resonates beautifully within the cathedral's acoustics, creating a deeply moving experience for all.

Alongside this, the cathedral hosts free lunchtime concerts during term time, providing an accessible way for everyone to experience exceptional music. Music here transcends its sacred roots, evolving into a cherished cultural legacy embraced by people of all faiths—and none.

# A Legacy Under Threat

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Today, this cherished heritage faces an uncertain future. Cathedral choirs across the UK are grappling with mounting financial pressures.

In December 2024, The Times asked a poignant question: “Is it the end for cathedral choirs?” Without sustained support, Chichester Cathedral’s extraordinary music could be at risk.

The recent pandemic, coupled with ongoing economic challenges, has severely impacted the cathedral’s ability to fund its musical programmes. Unlike many institutions, Chichester Cathedral receives no regular funding from the government or the Church of England. Instead, it relies on the generosity of donors to preserve its priceless musical legacy, and hand it on to future generations.



# Why Excellence Comes at a Cost

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Maintaining the cathedral’s musical excellence—from choir training, annual organ scholars to free lunchtime concerts—requires significant investment. The annual cost of supporting music at the Cathedral is nearly £450,000, with almost half allocated to chorister scholarships.

To address this, the Chichester Cathedral Restoration and Development Trust CIO has launched the Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Trust for Music, aiming to raise £5 million by 2026 to ensure a sustainable income for these vital activities. Since its launch in February 2024, the fund has raised £2.63 million. To help us reach our £5 million goal, in our 950th year we are thrilled to announce an additional £950,000 in match funding, thanks to the generosity of anonymous donors and a foundation. Every pound donated over the next year will be doubled, allowing us to leverage another £950,000 to secure the future of music at Chichester Cathedral.



**“Having this scholarship at Chichester means I can dedicate myself fully to playing the organ—something I’ve dreamed of for years.”**

Stephanie Gaunt, Chichester Cathedral Organ Scholar 2024-2025

# Double Your Impact: Join the Match Funding Campaign

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In this special 950th anniversary year, your donation will have twice the impact. Thanks to the match funding campaign, every pound you give will be doubled:

- **Donate £100, and it becomes £200.**
- **Donate £1000, and it becomes £2000.**

If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid adds an additional 25%, further enhancing the impact of your gift. Every contribution, no matter the size, is invaluable.



Find out more via [www.chichestercathedral.org.uk](http://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk)  
Or give us a call: 01243 812480  
Or scan the QR Code to make a donation

“Even those who do not believe in God find that the choral singing and organ accompaniment reaches them at a very deep level. Often it stirs them to deeper reflection, or gives strength to face the difficult battles of life.”

The Very Reverend Dr Edward Dowler, Dean of Chichester

“The big occasions, such as the Christmas carol services, were always highlights of the choir’s year. There was a real determination to do our best, not just for ourselves, but for the hundreds of people who had come to hear us. That blend of excitement and responsibility was something I only ever felt while singing with the cathedral choir.”

Rafi, Former Chichester Chorister and BBC Chorister of the Year 2017



# Chichester Cathedral Choir: Nurturing Talent

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At the heart of the cathedral's music is its renowned choir, a mix of boys and girls aged 8-13, supported by six professional Lay Vicars. The choristers receive a world-class musical education, integrating their training with daily services at the cathedral, where they develop teamwork, discipline, and performance skills.

The choristers' education is rooted at The Prebendal School, Sussex's oldest school, adjacent to the cathedral. Each chorister receives a scholarship covering at least 25% of their school fees, with additional means-tested bursaries available to ensure that financial barriers do not prevent talented children from joining.

The choir's performances reach national and international audiences through broadcasts, recordings, and tours, enriching not only the local community but also the wider world.





# Choristerships: An Opportunity to Support Music and Education

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Sponsoring a chorister is a transformative way to support both a child's education and the preservation of Chichester Cathedral's musical heritage. A full choristership spans five years and currently costs £54,705, covering 25% of the chorister's school fees and specialist music training. Families contribute the remaining 75%, with means-tested bursaries available.

Your sponsorship ensures that Chichester Cathedral's music programme remains accessible, thriving, and inspirational for future generations. Sponsors receive regular updates, invitations to special services, and recognition for their generosity, including the opportunity of a commemorative Choristership Medal.

## How You Can Help

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Whether as an individual, trust, organisation, or by gathering a group of friends to sponsor together, your support plays a vital role in sustaining Chichester Cathedral's choral tradition. Every contribution strengthens the foundation of our music programme, ensuring that the transformative power of music continues to enrich our community and inspire all who visit the cathedral.

Join us in preserving this remarkable tradition by sponsoring a chorister today. Together, we can ensure that Chichester Cathedral's music remains a beacon of excellence for generations to come.

# Your Impact: Preserving a Priceless Legacy

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By contributing to the match funding campaign to build up the endowment and/or by sponsoring a chorister you are helping to safeguard Chichester Cathedral's musical legacy for future generations. Your support ensures that music continues to be at the heart of the cathedral, enriching lives and inspiring all who visit.

For more information, please contact Alison George, Director of Fundraising, Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust:  
T: 01243 812480 Email: [alison.george@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:alison.george@chichestercathedral.org.uk)

## Experience Music at Chichester Cathedral

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The Chichester Cathedral Choir performs at Sunday services and daily Evensong during term time (except Wednesdays). Please check our website for the weekly schedule.

We also host free lunchtime concerts on Tuesdays during term time from 13:10 to 14:00. Performers include our resident and visiting organists, as well as guest pianists, quartets, and more.

In addition, the cathedral welcomes visiting orchestras and choirs throughout the year for special public concerts. Check our website for upcoming performances and ticket information.

**[CHICHESTERCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK](http://CHICHESTERCATHEDRAL.ORG.UK)**

Thank you for believing in the  
transformative power of music  
to uplift, connect, and inspire.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL  
PLATINUM ENDOWMENT TRUST  
FOR MUSIC

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Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust CIO (Charity no. 1156729)  
is the corporate trustee for Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Trust for Music,  
all funds and income are managed as a separate entity.

# CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

## PLATINUM ENDOWMENT TRUST FOR MUSIC

### Match-funded Gift

Your contact details (in block capitals)

Title	First Name	Surname
Postal Address		
Postcode		
Phone Number	Mobile	
Email Address:		

Your gift to music

My donation to support Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Fund for Music	EXAMPLE £500.00	£
Match-funding (this should match the amount of your gift)	£500.00	£
Total donation including match funding	£1,000.00	£

The match funding applies to the 950<sup>th</sup> anniversary campaign, after this point your support will still be welcome.

### How to give

o Cheque/charity voucher made payable to 'Chichester Cathedral Restoration and Development Trust CIO'.

o Bank transfer to Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust CIO bank account: Barclays Bank, Account number: 53716384, Sort code: 20-20-62.

Please provide your surname as the reference so that we can thank you



o Scan the QR code or go online <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/27733>

### Gift Aid Declaration

If you are a UK taxpayer, with your permission we can reclaim 25p for her £1 you donate

Please tick here	<p>I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Chichester Cathedral Restoration &amp; Development Trust.</p> <p>I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.</p>
Signature:	Date:

# CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

## PLATINUM ENDOWMENT TRUST FOR MUSIC

### Sponsor a Chorister

Your contact details (in block capitals)

Title	First Name	Surname
Postal Address		
Postcode		
Phone Number	Mobile	
Email Address:		

### Your Choristership gift

A full choristership spans five years and covers 25% of school fees and additional specialist music training. Any donation including gift aid above this amount will contribute to means-tested bursaries. Please indicate your annual commitment in the table below:

	25% commitment (minimum value)	My choristership commitment
Year 1	£9,900	£
Year 2	£10,395	£
Year 3	£10,915	£
Year 4	£11,460	£
Year 5	£12,035	£
Total donation including match funding	£54,705*	£

### How to make your 5-year Choristership

o Cheque/charity voucher made payable to 'Chichester Cathedral Restoration and Development Trust CIO'.

o Bank Transfer to Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust CIO bank account:  
Barclays Bank, Account number: 53716384, Sort code: 20-20-62.

*Please provide your name as the reference so that we can thank you*

o Please contact us if you wish to pay annually over 5-years

### Gift Aid Declaration

If you are a UK taxpayer, with your permission we can reclaim 25p for every £1 you donate

Please tick here	<p>I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Chichester Cathedral Restoration &amp; Development Trust.</p> <p>I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.</p>
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# CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL

PLATINUM ENDOWMENT TRUST FOR MUSIC

## Standing Order Mandate

### Your contact details (in block capitals)

Title	First Name	Surname
Postal Address		
Postcode		
Phone Number	Mobile	
Email Address:		

### Your bank details

Bank Name	
Bank Address	
Name of Account Holder	
Account Number:	Sort Code:

### Your instruction to make a regular payment to:

Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust CIO Barclays Bank, Chichester Account no: 53716384 Sort Code: 20-20-62	
The sum of £	
And in words	
Start date __/__/____ and thereafter on a monthly/ quarterly /annual basis (please delete as applicable) until I give further notice	
Signature:	Date:

Thank you

Please complete and return this form to:

Chichester Cathedral Trust, The Royal Chantry, Cathedral Cloisters, Chichester, West Sussex  
PO19 1PX E: [trust@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:trust@chichestercathedral.org.uk) | T: 01243 812990 | Registered Charity 1156729

Chichester Cathedral Restoration & Development Trust CIO is the corporate trustee for Chichester Cathedral Platinum Endowment Trust for Music. All donations for music are managed separately

Signature:		Date:
Please notify us if you:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• want to cancel this declaration</li> <li>• change your name or home address</li> <li>• no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains</li> </ul>	
If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.		

\*NB this figure is correct at the time of publication- March 2025- and subject to annual increases

Thank you

Please complete and return this form to:

Chichester Cathedral Trust, The Royal Chantry, Cathedral Cloisters, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 1PX

E: [trust@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:trust@chichestercathedral.org.uk) | T: 01243 812990 | Registered Charity 1156729



Please notify us if you:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• want to cancel this declaration</li><li>• change your name or home address</li><li>• no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains</li></ul> <p>If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.</p>
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Thank you

Please complete and return this form to:

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