Churchill College is home to an active music scene which draws together much of its student, fellow, and staff membership. It can also boast of impressive facilities for music, including a purpose-built music centre (2007) with a Steinway Grand piano (model B) and a French, two-manual harpsichord made for the College by David Rubio in 1983. In addition to chapel music, Churchill provides a wide range of other musical activities and opportunities, including a successful college orchestra (the ‘Orchestra on the Hill’, run jointly with neighbouring Murray Edwards and Fitzwilliam Colleges), a lively chamber music scene, numerous rock bands, and the highly-regarded Churchill Jazz Band: [http://www.churchilljazzband.com/](http://www.churchilljazzband.com/)

**Chapel music**
The chapel choir sing one service per week on Sunday evenings during term, employing a variety of liturgies through the term. The choir prides itself both on the quality of its music-making, and on its welcoming, relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Mark Gotham directs, assisted by the organ scholars. Apart from the weekly services, the choir also participates in other exciting projects. Recent highlights have included performances of the Bach *Magnificat* and the Mozart *Requiem* (with the City of Cambridge Symphony Orchestra), as well as contributions to the first ever recording of music at Churchill. You can listen to the both the live and studio recordings here: [https://soundcloud.com/churchillmusicsociety](https://soundcloud.com/churchillmusicsociety)

**Organ scholarships**
The chapel offers two endowed organ scholarships which are intended to overlap by one academic year in order to assist the senior organ scholar during their final year of study. Each scholar receives an annual bursary of £450, a further £250 towards music lessons, and has a college room with a piano set aside for them. The main duty is to play for the weekly services as well as for any additional college services (usually just one or two per year). Subsidiary administrative duties include managing the choir and its library with the assistance of a committee of volunteers recruited from among the choir. The organists are invited to conduct as often as they like and they receive coaching in this from the Director of Music. The organ’s specifications are available here: [http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/societies/chapel/organ/](http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/societies/chapel/organ/)

**University Choral Awards, and other bursaries at Churchill**
Churchill College joined the university’s Inter-Collegiate Choral Awards Scheme in 2015, in recognition of its rapidly burgeoning choral scene. Choral scholars receive the standard financial award and free singing lessons. The college provides a resident singing teacher, though scholars are free to study elsewhere if they chose. Churchill also runs a second, un-auditioned, ‘Churchill Chorus’, taking on a range of repertoire to complement that of the chapel choir (jazz, pop etc.). There are many opportunities for singers to direct if they wish.

As well as university choral scholarships, Churchill runs its own internal scheme, with substantial bursaries for its most accomplished and active musicians in any style. Bursaries are on offer for singers and instrumentalists, as well as for a director of the Churchill Chorus, and for an accompanist. The chapel choir also benefits from close ties with Murray Edwards College, which provides internal choral scholarships to its students singing at Churchill.

**Time commitment and student testimony**
Organ scholars and choir members alike have welcomed the opportunity to make music of extraordinary beauty to a high standard without it dominating their time. The low commitment has enabled the participation of students, fellows, and staff from Churchill and beyond who have rigid schedules in the working week. The choir also maintains a rich social calendar including well-attended weekly pub trips, as well as High Table dinner once per term at the invitation and expense of the Chapel Trustees. Recent students have described the experience of singing with Churchill as ‘inspiring’ and ‘unforgettable’.

**Further information**
For further information, please get in touch, or visit the ‘ChuMS’ (Churchill Music Society) website: [http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/societies/music/](http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk/societies/music/)

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