

# CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL NEWCASTLE

SEEKS TO APPOINT AN  
**ORGAN SCHOLAR**



**APPLICATIONS CLOSE: MARCH 31**

[www.newcastlecathedral.org.au](http://www.newcastlecathedral.org.au)



Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle, is delighted to invite applications for the position of Organ Scholar, to commence in June 2023. This is a role for a young musician and organist to work in one of Australia's most beautiful churches, playing one of the country's finest organs, and to work with two great musicians - David Banney (Director of Music) and David Drury (Organist-in-Residence).

### **About Christ Church Cathedral**

Christ Church Cathedral is one of Australia's most beautiful places of worship, adorning the city skyline, and serving the Diocese of Newcastle. It is a vibrant and inclusive place of welcome and prayer. Under the leadership of the Dean, the Very Reverend Katherine Bowyer, the Cathedral community seeks to nurture and support the artistic and creative arts. The Music Ministry is an intrinsic and highly valued part of the Cathedral life.

### **Our Music**

Christ Church Cathedral has a long history of excellence in church music, which continues under its Director of Music, David Banney, and Organist-in-Residence, David Drury. The Cathedral Choir sings at two services each Sunday - a 10am Choral Eucharist and a 6pm Evensong - as well as numerous other services through the year. The Choir has made a number of international tours, singing for services and recordings at churches including St Pauls Cathedral (London) and Notre Dame (Paris), and giving live broadcasts on BBC Radio. The Cathedral has a children's choir - the St Nicholas Choir - which sings for a number of services each year. The Cathedral's repertoire covers a wide range of the great choral and tradition, as well as a great deal of innovative new music.

The Cathedral plays an important role in the life of the city of Newcastle, hosting services for a wide range of organisations and occasions, and music is an essential part of those services. The Cathedral is home to the acclaimed Christ Church Camerata and is a significant venue for the Newcastle Music Festival. The Cathedral offers high-level music education through the Newcastle Cathedral College of Music, offering VET courses (Cert IV and Diploma), and a variety of masterclasses and other opportunities. The Cathedral is one of Newcastle's most important venues for concerts and recording and hosts the Finale of the annual Newcastle Music Festival.

### **Our Organ**

The Cathedral's organ is one of Australia's finest. It's history dates to 1906 when the original instrument was installed, with three manuals, pedals and 30 speaking stops, built by Norman and Beard and designed by Sir George Martin (Organist, St Paul's Cathedral, London). With refurbishments, repairs and extensions over the following decades by TC Edwards, JW Walker, and Peter Jewkes, the current organ has 60 speaking stops, and is in demand for concerts and recordings by national and international artists. The Cathedral has enjoyed a succession of outstanding Organists and Music Directors, including Peter Guy, Philip Matthias, Michael Dudman and now David Drury.

### **Safe Ministries**

Christ Church Cathedral is a place of welcome and inclusion. Following the Safe Ministries policies of the Newcastle Diocese, it is a requirement that all staff work towards ensuring that its venues, services and other activities are safe for staff, worshippers and visitors.

### **Assistant Organist Duties**

The Organ Scholar will play for Sunday services at the Cathedral, including the 8am Eucharist, the 10am Choral Eucharist and the 6pm Evensong, on two Sundays each month, and assist the Organist-in-Residence and Director of Music on remaining Sundays. You will attend Friday evening choir rehearsals (5.30-7pm), as well as occasional extra rehearsals for important services and events. In addition, the Organ Scholar will be invited to play for weddings and funerals from time to time, for which extra remuneration will be offered. You will be called upon to conduct the choir or an instrumental ensemble from time to time, and you will be offered conducting lessons from the Cathedral's Director of Music. You will be answerable to the Director of Music and the Dean of the Cathedral.



## Remuneration and Benefits

The Organ Scholar will be offered remuneration according to skills and experience. Additional benefits include:

- Organ lessons from the Organist-in-Residence and conducting lessons from the Director of Music.
- Allowance for study leave for approved courses/events.
- Access to the Cathedral organ and piano for practice and rehearsing (pending availability in the Cathedral diary), and have the opportunity to give recitals and make recordings in the Cathedral.

## Selection Criteria

1. A commitment to Christian principles, and willingness to support the ministries of Christ Church Cathedral.
3. Good keyboard skills.
4. A well-rounded musician with skills including sight-reading at the keyboard, sight-singing, and harmonic understanding.
5. Interest in improvisation.
6. Ability and desire to work in a team, that includes the Director of Music, the Organist-in-Residence, choristers, clergy and other Cathedral staff and volunteers.

## Other Requirements/Conditions

Applicants over the age of 18 will be only offered the position subject to Crimcheck and Working With Children Check. The role is subject to a three-month probation period.

## How to apply

Complete the application form (which can be found here: <http://www.newcastlecathedral.org.au/music/organscholar>) and email to [dabanney@gmail.com](mailto:dabanney@gmail.com) with the attachments listed below. Please note: the application form includes acknowledging that you support the Safe Ministries policies and practices of the Newcastle Diocese, and that, if you are offered the position, you are willing to complete Safe Ministry training and sign the Faithfulness in Service document of the Diocese (these can be found here: <https://www.newcastleanglican.org.au/ministry-standards/> ).

For applicants under the age of 18, the Application Form includes a declaration of support from a parent/guardian.

Attachments:

1. Cover letter, addressed to the Director of Music
2. CV
3. Statement addressing the Selection Criteria
4. Names, positions and contact details for two referees.
5. Optional - links to online recordings of your playing (No more than two). Please make it simple for us to access recordings – no complex password processes, please!

## Selection process

Round One - Submission of Applications (as above).

Round Two - Auditions/Interviews

Upon review of the applications, a short list of candidates will be invited to attend an interview and audition at Christ Church Cathedral. At the audition you will be required to:

1. Play two contrasting pieces (3-5 minutes each)
2. Sight-reading test (keyboard)
3. Opportunity to improvise.
4. Ear-tests and sight-singing.

## Timeline:

**Saturday, March 25, 2-5pm** - Organ Workshop with David Drury (This is not an essential part of the process, but is highly recommended. Registration is essential, and registrations close on March 21. Follow this link for details:

<http://www.newcastlecathedral.org.au/music/organworkshop>)

**Friday, March 31** - Applications Close (5pm)

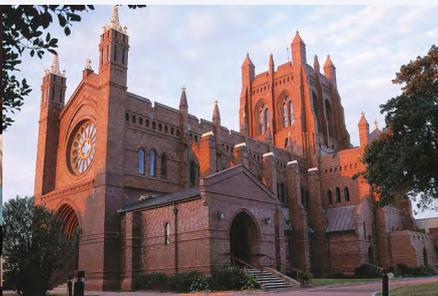
**Thursday, April 6** - Results announced and invitations issued for Round Two (auditions/interviews)

**Sat, April 22** - Auditions (Christ Church Cathedral)

The results will be announced in **early May**.

The successful candidate is expected to take up the role during the month of **June, 2023**, subject to negotiation.

*For more information, please contact the Director of Music, Dr David Banney: [dabanney@gmail.com](mailto:dabanney@gmail.com)*



# APPLICATION FORM

ORGAN SCHOLAR - CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, NEWCASTLE  
APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 5PM, MARCH 31

## APPLICANT DETAILS

Applicant's Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

### For Applicants over 18 years of age

If offered the position of Organ Scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, I agree to undertake Safe Ministries Training and to abide by the Safe Ministries rules and policies of the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle (<https://www.newcastleanglican.org.au/ministry-standards/>).

Signature of applicant:

### For Applicants under 18 years of age - Declaration by parent/guardian

I have read the Application Document and I am aware of the Safe Ministries policies of the Anglican Diocese of Newcastle (<https://www.newcastleanglican.org.au/ministry-standards/>), and I support this application for the position of Organ Scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Newcastle.

## Parent/Guardian details

Name:

Relationship to applicant:

Address:

Email:

Phone Number:

Signature of Parent/Guardian:

