



**NEWMAN COLLEGE**  
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***THE CHOIR OF NEWMAN COLLEGE***  
***UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE***

**PRINCIPAL CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS**  
**and**  
**MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHOIR OF NEWMAN COLLEGE**  
**2017**

**THE CHOIR OF NEWMAN COLLEGE**

The Choir of Newman College was established at the beginning of 2002 to serve as the chapel and concert choir of Newman College, an affiliated residential College of the University of Melbourne. The choir consists of twenty-four voices, comprising six sopranos, six altos/counter-tenors, six tenors and six basses. The principal aims of the choir are to provide leadership in liturgical music within Australia, to promote choral music through performances of uncompromising excellence and to provide the skills and training which will allow choristers to become choral leaders. Each position in the choir will attract a scholarship as an acknowledgment of the required commitment and standard expected of each chorister.

The Director of the Choir of Newman College is Dr Gary Ekkel, who has led the choir since its inception in 2002.

**PRINCIPAL CHORAL SCHOLARSHIPS**

Three Principal Scholarships and one Senior Choral Scholarship are awarded each year. The three Principal Choral Scholars are senior members of the choir who, together with the Senior Choral Scholar, are responsible for the oversight of each of the voice sections in the choir, in consultation with the Director.

Further details about the Senior Choral Scholarship may be found in the 'Senior Choral Scholarship' document, obtainable by contacting the Director of the Choir ([choirdirector@newman.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:choirdirector@newman.unimelb.edu.au)).

## **APPLICATIONS**

To apply for the position of Principal Choral Scholar, complete the Application Form at the end of this document and return it by email or mail to the College (see correspondence details below).

## **AUDITIONS**

Principal Choral Scholarships are awarded by audition. Candidates will be required to prepare two contrasting solo items and a choral item. Candidates should secure their own accompanist for the audition. In addition candidates will receive a series of sight-reading, aural and singing exercises.

## **VALUE AND PAYMENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS**

A Principal Scholar receives a scholarship of \$2590 per annum. The scholarship will be paid in four instalments, once midway through each semester and once at the end of each semester. The stipend may be reduced at the discretion of the Director if the Scholar has not satisfactorily fulfilled the requirements of the scholarship.

Principal choral scholars who are resident at Newman College will in addition receive a \$1000 reduction from their fees in the second semester for each year that they are in the choir. Residents of the College are also eligible for a range of further scholarships and bursaries.

A Principal Scholar who is not resident of Newman College will be given non-resident membership of the College, including access to tutorials (in consultation with the Dean) and use of the library. The College will provide dinner without charge for Principal Scholars on Thursday and Sunday evenings immediately preceding or following rehearsals.

## **EXPECTATIONS OF PRINCIPAL SCHOLARS**

Principal Scholars are responsible for the oversight of the singers in their particular section of the choir, in consultation with the Director.

In this role, a Principal Scholar is expected to:

1. take sectional rehearsals when required
2. consult with the Director about the vocal skills, mix and positioning of voices in his/her section
3. be part of the panel for choral scholarship auditions when required
4. assist the Director in the planning of concerts, services and rehearsals
5. offer support and encouragement to the Choral Scholars

Principal Scholars are likely to have regular opportunities to sing solos in services and concerts.

### **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

All Choral Scholars, including Principal Scholars, are expected to:

1. be present at all rehearsals, services, concerts and recordings unless the Director has granted leave of absence (see below)
2. be present five minutes before the scheduled time of all rehearsals, services and other choir events
3. have all music learnt in advance; each piece of music indicated in the rehearsal plan should be known well before the specified rehearsal
4. be responsible for the safe-keeping of all choir music while in his or her possession, and to pay the cost of any loss or damage as the Director determines
5. take part in choir tours

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

1. Regular rehearsals and services. During Orientation Week and each week of the Academic Year (not including the examination period) the choir rehearses and participates in services as follows:

Thursdays 7:30-9:30pm Rehearsal

Sundays 4:00-6:15pm Rehearsal

Sundays 7:00-8:00pm Eucharist

2. Compline services. Monthly during the Academic Term:

Thursday 9:30-10:00pm Service

3. Holy Week and Easter services. The choir sings in services on Wednesday of Holy Week (Compline, 9:30pm), Maundy Thursday (5:30pm), Good Friday

(3:00pm), Easter Saturday (8:00pm) and Easter Sunday (11:00am). Rehearsals precede each of these services.

4. Special services. The choir sings in the Commencement Services at the beginning of each semester, the Valete Service in October and the Carol Service in early December.
5. November and December. Regular rehearsals (but not services) will recommence in the second half of November and the first part of December in preparation for the Carol Service and the final concert of the Concert Series.
6. The Choir of Newman College Concert Series. The Choir of Newman College Concert Series consists of three concerts. In addition to the normal rehearsals specified above there is always a dress rehearsal on the night preceding the concert.
7. Irregular concerts, services and recordings. Notice of such concerts and services will be given as early as possible and normally not later than the beginning of each semester.
8. Dinners. Three formal dinner-concerts per year in College.
9. Choir camps. The choir will usually have one choir camp in February of each year.
10. Weddings. Choristers will have the opportunity to sing in weddings, for which they will be paid.
11. Scholars are also expected to make reasonable efforts to attend memorial, funeral and other special services which may arise with little notice.

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Requests for leave of absence (with appropriate reduction of stipend) must be received and approved by the Director at least two weeks in advance. The Scholar is expected to obtain the permission of the Director before accepting other singing or musical engagements which conflict with the choir's commitments. If a Scholar seeks leave for a service or concert, he or she is expected to find a substitute of at least equal standard to replace them in that service or concert. The substitute must be approved by the Director.

## **RENEWAL AND CONCLUSION OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

1. Scholarships are awarded for one year and are renewable.
2. Principal Scholars are expected to give the Director of Music at least ten weeks notice of his or her intention to leave the choir.
3. The Director may terminate the Scholar's membership of the choir and have the scholarship suspended, reduced, or ended if a Scholar, after written warning, continues to fail to meet his or her obligations as a Choral Scholar or to perform to the Director's satisfaction.

## **ENQUIRIES**

For enquiries regarding the application process, please contact Newman College on tel. (03) 93475577. For specific questions about the choir or the audition process please contact Dr Gary Ekkel by e-mail at [choirdirector@newman.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:choirdirector@newman.unimelb.edu.au).

**APPLICATION FORM FOR THE POSITION OF  
PRINCIPAL CHORAL SCHOLAR  
THE CHOIR OF NEWMAN COLLEGE**

*Please complete and return the application form by email to: [choirdirector@newman.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:choirdirector@newman.unimelb.edu.au)*

*or by mail to:*

Director of the Choir of Newman College  
Newman College  
887 Swanston St  
Parkville 3052

*If there is insufficient room on the application form, please include the extra details on a separate sheet which should have your name clearly marked on it.*

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**POSTCODE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE (Home/College/Work/Mobile as applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE OF BIRTH:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE/OCCUPATION IN 2016:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTITUTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLANNED COURSE/OCCUPATION IN 2017:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTITUTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **YEAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VOICE (Sop/Mezzo/Alto/Tenor/Bar/Bass):** \_\_\_\_\_

**TUITION (Provide details of teachers and dates) :**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CHORAL EXPERIENCE (Include dates and directors):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**SOLO VOCAL EXPERIENCE (including examination and concert details) :** \_\_\_\_\_

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**INSTRUMENTAL EXPERIENCE (Supply details of instruments played, dates, standard, examinations and teachers):** \_\_\_\_\_

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**THEORY/MUSICIANSHIP/MUSIC TECHNIQUES (Supply details of examinations and dates):**

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**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS/SCHOLARSHIPS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE/INTERESTS:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**REFEREES (Include the names, addresses and phone numbers of two referees):**

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*I would like to receive information about residency at Newman College.*

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_