

St Peter & St Paul, Lingfield Parish Church,

Old Town, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6AH

United Benefice of Lingfield & Dormansland

Vicar - The Revd. Ian Whitley - vicar.ubld@outlook.com. Vicarage office phone - 01342 895564.

The Vestry Office is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.30am to 12.30am, tel 01342 832021 or officelingfieldppchurch@gmail.com. www.lingfieldparishchurch.org



Main nave and high altar.

Director of Music and Organist.

Our organist is retiring in August after many years of successfully leading the music for our services on the organ and piano. We are seeking an excellent replacement to progress our musical worship.

Music is an essential part of our worship here at Lingfield. Our main service is the Sunday mid-morning Sung Eucharist with occasional Sunday evening events. We have a choir to lead the singing of hymns, present regular anthems, and sing the usual additional Christmas and Easter festivals. The organ is regularly requested for weddings and funeral services.

The organ is a top class piped instrument originally built in 1911 by Walkers and located to the right of the above photograph. In 1998 it was rebuilt by Wood, Brown of Haywards Heath, to add eleven new stops and the worn-out action was replaced by a computerised system. The new console on a mobile platform retains the original 1911 keyboard. The organ is serviced and tuned every year.

Prior to Covid, choral and brass band concerts and organ recitals were held featuring local instrumentalists and experts in their field. We are returning to holding these events later this year.

Job Description Principal Function.

- The Church Organist provides organ music and accompaniment for scheduled worship services, and other activities in support of the music ministry of the church.
- Has a pivotal role in the musical life of the church, this individual is a strong team player, being a full partner with the ministerial staff.
- Support the Church's vision and mission.
- This year-round position is defined as salary (no overtime pay).
- Expectation of attendance is for Sunday worship services, rehearsals with the choir, and other special services, including (but not limited to) Christmas and Easter. The work is done cooperatively.
- As a part of the musical leadership team of the church, the Organist is expected to advocate for the music program.

Job Requirements.

- Experience in church worship, with both organ and piano.

- Flexibility to play all types of worship music.
- Sound knowledge of the instrument and keyboard ability sufficient to play hymns, songs, and anthem accompaniments and suitable voluntaries.
- High degree of competence on organ, and the ability to accompany groups and individuals.
- Willingness to rehearse sufficiently to maintain a high quality of music.
- Sensitivity and the ability to interact with a variety of people.
- Ability to take direction and work as a team member.
- Ability to communicate well and in a friendly manner with the church leadership, church choir, and members of the congregation.
- Desire to maintain a constant program of self-improvement.

Accountability.

- The Organist is accountable to the Vicar and Churchwardens as head of the worship and music ministry of the church. This individual will need to notify the Vicar and Churchwardens a minimum of three weeks prior to planned absences (preferably as soon as known) to allow for scheduling of a substitute organist.
- An annual performance review will be undertaken.

Responsibilities.

- Support the church's worship environment through the well-prepared execution of music presented by the choir, including orchestra and brass band, and other musicians.
- Serve as accompanist for the choir in regular, and special rehearsals and performances as assigned.
- Facilitate congregational singing and worship through the excellent execution of hymns and other songs.
- Be a part of the orchestra or brass band, attending its rehearsals and performing with other players.
- Plan, select, and prepare hymns, anthems, etc. according to the needs of the worship services.
- Serve as accompanist for other choirs, ensembles, and soloists, when needed.
- Play for baptisms, weddings and funerals, as requested (and upon availability), being permitted to receive additional compensation from the parties involved.
- Maintain an accurate account of organ needs / maintenance and notify the Vicar and Churchwardens accordingly.
- Assist the Vicar and Churchwardens in finding a substitute for Sundays when not available.

Safeguarding.

- The position will be subject to an enhanced DBC disclosure.

Salary.

- Negotiable, consistent with candidate's education, experience, and skill level, circa **£6000**. Supplementary fees available from baptisms, weddings and funerals both here and maybe at our United Benefice church of St John, Dormansland, if their organist is not available.

Application.

- If you are interested in this role, please send a letter of application and current CV (including an outline of your organ qualifications) to officelingfieldppchurch@gmail.com.
- Potential appointees will be expected to attend for interview, demonstrate their abilities on organ and piano, and answers questions from the panel.

Appointment.

- It is expected that the successful candidate will take up the position in August 2022.

About St Peter & St Paul, Lingfield Parish Church.

There was a Saxon church on this site well before the Norman Conquest, although only small parts of the original structure remain near the west door. Essentially, we have now a 15th century building, known as the 'Little Cathedral' or the 'Westminster Abbey of Surrey', with a double nave, which is unusual.

The tombs of three generations of the Cobham family are prominent features at the front of the church and there are other historic monuments, including several brasses set into the floor of the Lady Chapel in front of the altar. There are many interesting artefacts mounted on the walls, some of which have recently been restored with a donation from The Friends of St Peter & St Paul. The tower contains a peal of eight bells which are rung on Sundays prior to services, and during the week by visiting groups of bell ringers from other parishes.

We have just installed in 2021, new LED internal lighting, the heating system is modern, and we have a new vicar appointed in February 2021.

In the last few years, the church roof has been reconstructed, the inside walls painted, and other works carried out bringing the building up to a good state of repair. The church is a Grade 1 Listed Building, (list entry number 1029906, date listed June 11, 1958). More information may be obtained from the website <http://www.lingfieldparishchurch.org/about-us/church-history>

The church is used for services on Sundays and on other days of the week, baptisms, weddings and funerals are regular events. Coffee mornings and other social events take place every week and a Messy Church children's session on the second Monday of the month. The church is open for visitors during the daylight hours for those requiring a peaceful and quiet place. The Miller Room is used for meetings and church related activities, as and when needed. Concerts and other musical events are held occasionally, as are lectures and other public meetings.



Side chapel position of organ console and pipes. The right-hand bank of pipes in the main nave.



Organ console on movable platform.

The organ specification can be found on the National Pipe Organ Register
<https://www.npor.org.uk/NPORView.html?RI=D08484>