OLD ROYAL
NAVAL COLLEGE
GREENWICH



CHAPEL OF ST PETER & ST PAUL
VENUE HIRE & EVENTS



WELCOME TO THE CHAPEL

The Chapel of St Peter & St Paul stands as a remarkable example of neoclassical architecture and as a symbol of the rich maritime and royal history of Greenwich. The excellent natural acoustics produced by its distinctive 18th century curved ceiling, along with the exquisite chapel interior designed by James ‘Athenian’ Stuart, create an inspiring atmosphere in which to perform and listen.

Front cover & this page: James Iain Genovese. © Old Royal Naval College.



FROM OUR CHAPLAIN

This beautiful Chapel serves as a place of worship for local residents, visitors, and students from the University of Greenwich and Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance. In seeking to make the Chapel available for worship, concerts, and other activities, we work to ensure all events run smoothly while also fulfilling our responsibilities for Chapel maintenance and public safety. We are grateful for your cooperation as we balance your event requirements with the care of the facility and the needs of other users. I, along with the Chapel Manager and other Foundation staff, look forward to working with you.

The Reverend Dr Robert Tobin
Chaplain

Hugh Fox © Old Royal Naval College



Jamie Iain Genovese. © Old Royal Naval College.

CHAPEL HISTORY

Since Tudor times, a Royal chapel has graced this site where Greenwich Palace once stood. After the Tudor palace declined, Sir Christopher Wren was tasked with erecting the Greenwich Royal Hospital, akin to the Chelsea Hospital for soldiers. The current Chapel has served as a place of worship for over two centuries.

CAPACITY

Our Chapel can accommodate up to 340 guests in the Nave, with an additional 25 in both upper gallery areas. We also have space for 50 people backstage, ensuring a total capacity of 440, which includes all performers. If you're selling tickets or need the full capacity, make sure the seats are numbered accordingly.

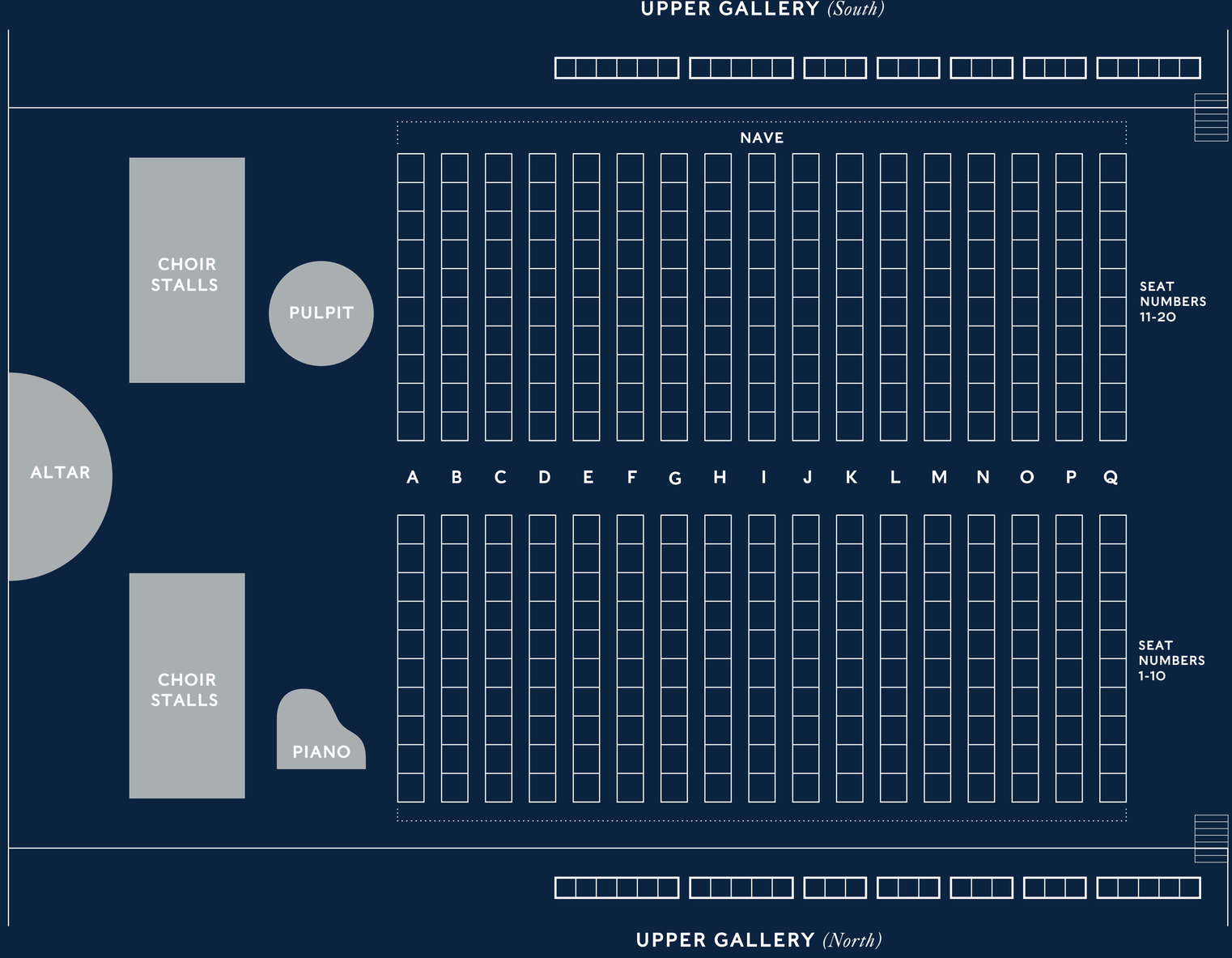
TOTAL
440 seats

NAVE
340 seats

UPPER GALLERIES
50 Seats (25 on each side)

BACKSTAGE
Up to 50

CHAPEL SEATING PLAN



OPERATIONAL INFORMATION / FAQS

BAR / CATERING

Please include details of your bar and catering requirements with your enquiry and a quote can be provided from our in-house catering team. Please note that food and drink is not allowed in the main body of the Chapel.

STAGING

Staging and sound equipment is permitted, but it must meet our requirements. 63a 3 phase power is available.

PIANO

We have a beautiful grand piano available in the Chapel. If you require the piano to be moved for your event please let the team know during your site visit.

BACKSTAGE REHEARSAL SPACE

There is limited backstage space available for rehearsals, this includes toilets.

FILMING

Please note that no photography and filming of the Chapel events or College is prohibited without prior permission from the Greenwich Foundation. Any photography or filming requirements should be listed in your method statement, and any setup should be included in the risk assessment. A license will be issued for any commercial filming or photography.

SEATING AND STANDS

We provide chairs for the choir and orchestra, along with 15 music stands.

TICKET SALES AND PUBLICITY

It is your responsibility to arrange marketing, ticket sales and run the box office for your event if it is ticketed. If you plan to sell tickets at the door, please let us know in advance.

PARKING AND TRAVEL

Please be aware that the Old Royal Naval College is a closed site with no public parking available. We can arrange parking for performers and event organisers.
There are ‘pay & display’ car parks nearby in Greenwich, such as those in Park Row, Cutty Sark Gardens, Burney Street and Greenwich Park. The Chapel is just 12 minutes from Greenwich main-line station on foot and four minutes from Cutty Sark station of the Docklands Light Railway (DLR). Additionally, several buses stop outside, and regular boats from central London dock at the nearby Greenwich Pier.

CLEAR UP

It is the client’s responsibility to ensure the Chapel is left in good condition after the event. It is the client’s responsibility to clear away any rubbish from changing and back of house areas. Your concert or event manager should check in with the Greenwich Foundation’s event manager before leaving the premises.

REHEARSALS

The Chapel is a vibrant, active place of worship open to the public daily, hosting diverse activities, educational visits, and providing a space for reflection and prayer. Its beauty and historical significance are our responsibility and should be respected by all visitors. It is essential that all rehearsal timings and requirements are discussed and booked in as part of your booking enquiry. Silence during rehearsals cannot be guaranteed, especially during opening hours or when Chapel staff are preparing for events. Special requirements, like recording rehearsals, must be arranged with the Chapel Manager beforehand. Upon arrival, the rehearsal organiser should check in with the Chapel Manager to confirm arrangements. During rehearsals, please refrain from leaving bags or coats anywhere in the Chapel, including the choir stalls. Performers and staff should utilise the backstage facilities. Additionally, the area upstairs directly behind the main Chapel is a Memorial Chapel with an altar, so please treat it with care and respect.

FEES, INSURANCE AND CONTRACTS

Details on fees will be issued upon enquiry. Once your event is confirmed you will be issued with a contract that should be returned within three working days in order to secure your booking. Invoices should be settled at least seven days before your event.

RISK ASSESSMENTS, PLANS AND METHOD STATEMENTS

Prior to concert setup, complete risk assessments, plans, and method statements must be sent to the Chapel Manager.
A template is available if needed. Pre-event site visits can be arranged on request.

DAMAGES

Part of the Old Royal Naval College, the Chapel of St Peter & St Paul is a Grade I listed building and Scheduled Monument, reflecting its national historical and architectural significance. To safeguard these treasures, the Greenwich Foundation (the charity that looks after the Old Royal Naval College) urges users to take the necessary steps to avoid damage to the buildings. Please handle equipment with care, avoid bringing in music stands with metal feet or other floor-scratching items, and limit drinks to bottled water within the Chapel. Your cooperation in preserving these buildings for future generations is greatly appreciated.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Stewards play a crucial role in managing the large and complex Old Royal Naval College site, ensuring a warm welcome, directing visitors, and ensuring safety for both visitors and performers. Reporting directly to the Chapel Manager, stewards are on duty before, during, and after events when visitors are present. The Chapel Manager, along with three staff members, including one stationed backstage, will be available during your event. A minimum of ten stewards (or eight without upper galleries) aged 18 or above are needed for smooth event operation. Stewards may sell programmes, but separate staff should handle ticket and programme sales at the door. Ticket sales can occur in the ante-chapel, accommodating latecomers.
The event organiser is responsible for welcoming and hosting VIPs. The Chapel Manager will discuss stewarding and sales details beforehand and conduct a vital health and safety briefing for all stewards prior to the event.



Hugh Fox. © Old Royal Naval College.

ACCESSIBILITY

We can accommodate a maximum of two wheelchair users per concert due to emergency evacuation regulations.

The Chapel is two floors above street level, accessed via 28 steps over two flights of stairs. Alternatively, guests can use the Grand Square colonnade route to reduce steps to 14, though it increases distance.

Wheelchair access is via a manually driven ‘Stairmate’, which tilts at a 45˚ angle. The machine is not suitable for electric scooters, but some electric wheelchairs are compatible (max load: 440 lbs, max width: 69.5cm). Please inform us in advance of wheelchair users attending for operator availability. It is recommended that wheelchair users arrive early. The bar and disabled toilets are accessible via a ramp into the Queen Mary Undercroft. We are more than happy to discuss access arrangements with wheelchair users in advance to ensure that their visit runs smoothly.

If a wheelchair user needs or prefers to remain in their wheelchair during an event, they will be seated in the central aisle. If tickets are being issued, therefore, the wheelchair users should be issued with a ticket numbered 12 or 15 in rows A-R or 13 or 16 in rows S-T. Companions should be issued with the appropriate adjoining seats.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING

Cars displaying a blue badge will be admitted onto the site and can park in the main car park, which is situated near to the Chapel. As we are a closed site, you are asked to advise us of any accessible parking needs on 020 8269 4788.

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We would love the opportunity to talk to you about holding your next event at the Chapel of St Peter & St Paul.

Email **events@ornc.org**
Instagram **@oldroyalnavalcollege**

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THANK YOU