



the Charterhouse

The Charterhouse

Overview

Blessed with exceptional historic buildings, a Jacobean chapel and lovingly tended gardens, the Charterhouse is described by some as a 'hidden gem' and by others as a '400-year-old start up'. With the recent retirement of our current Preacher, the Governors of the Charterhouse are seeking an exceptional individual to support this ancient and highly regarded charitable foundation.

The Charterhouse is at a pivotal and very exciting stage in its development. The core purpose of the charity is to provide housing, support and care to older people in need. The Governors' recent strategic review has led to a recommendation to expand the number and diversity of almshouse residents, called 'Brothers'. Over the last few years we have welcomed the first women residents and appointed the first female Master.

A further strategic recommendation was to promote greater links with the local community through 'Good Neighbour' schemes. We have developed partnerships with national and local charities including Age UK and North London Cares to promote joint activities at the Charterhouse such as 'Death Cafés' and evening social events for Brothers and local older people. We also invite residents of local care homes and community centres to meals with the Brothers

Three years ago the Charterhouse opened its doors to the public for the first time with a museum, learning centre and shop. Since then it has welcomed over 85,000 visitors and 4000 schoolchildren; partnerships with local cultural institutions such as the Museum of London and the Barbican have led to thousands of visitors enjoying the wonderful historic buildings and gardens. A whole range of events including concerts, yoga, art classes and drama is now available. Crossrail is scheduled to open in 2021 and one of its stations is within yards of Charterhouse Square, presenting new commercial and other opportunities for the charity.

Background

The Charterhouse was founded by Thomas Sutton in 1611 and throughout its history has been located in a beautiful collegiate setting of a former Carthusian monastery in the Borough of Islington and on the edge of the City of London. A registered charity formally known as Sutton's Hospital in Charterhouse, it provides accommodation and care for up to 50 single elderly people. The Charterhouse also manages a significant endowment which contributes financial support to the institution and to Charterhouse School (which was until 1872 collocated and part of the charity).

The Charterhouse
Charterhouse Square
London EC1M 6AN

www.thecharterhouse.org



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The Governors are deeply conscious of their duty to maintain the fabric of the architecturally significant heritage buildings (mostly Grade One listed) both now and for the future, whilst managing the charity's financial assets prudently and sustainably.

People

The Sovereign, the Consort and the Heir are Royal Governors of the Charterhouse and the Archbishop of Canterbury is the Archiepiscopal Governor. Fifteen further Governors are the charity's elected trustees and the Assembly of Governors meets three times a year assisted by a number of sub-committees. Between them the Governors have a significant record of achievement and service across the public, private and third sectors.

The charity employs a committed team of around seventy full and part-time staff which manages the health and wellbeing needs of the Brothers' together with the charity's financial, administrative and estate management requirements. The Master (CEO) is supported by a senior team including the Directors of Operations, Health & Wellbeing, Finance and Development. There is also a devoted team of around 50 volunteers supporting the museum, the infirmary and the extensive gardens.

The Brothers

The Brothers, originally those who could supply '*good testimonye and certificat of their good behaviour and soundnes in religion*', are admitted from a wide variety of professions including teachers, clergymen, writers, editors, musicians, artists and designers. They have a desire to live together in community at the Charterhouse and to play as active a role as possible both inside and outside the Charterhouse. Three women and 41 men currently live at the Charterhouse with plans to increase the number to fifty.

Most of the Brothers live in their own flats and take meals together in the Great Hall. There are also twelve bedrooms in the Queen Elizabeth II Infirmary for those Brothers who need greater care. The Infirmary is a registered care home and up to six of its bedrooms are occupied by private patients.

The Charterhouse is registered with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to provide domiciliary care to Brothers in their flats as and when that is required.



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The Chapel

The Jacobean chapel functions on a daily basis with morning service and evensong; the congregation consists of Brothers and a small number from the local community. A recent survey of Brothers identified that 14% come to chapel more than once a week, 51% weekly, 55% monthly and 89% attend at least annually. During museum opening hours the chapel is manned by volunteers and the exceptional Jacobean tomb of our founder is a particular feature. The chapel is available for use by external organisations and is increasingly used as a venue for musical concerts.

For further background, please visit our website <http://www.thecharterhouse.org/>