



News from the Royal School of Church Music

SENIOR SCOTTISH JUDGE TO CHAIR RSCM

Scotland's second most senior judge has been appointed as Chairman of Council of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM). The Rt Hon Lord Gill (68), the Lord Justice Clerk, takes up the role in the summer. He succeeds Mark Williams, a senior partner in an international investment company, whose term of office is about to come to an end.

Brian Gill has had a lifelong interest in church music, ever since singing as a treble in the choir at St Aloysius' College, Glasgow. He has subsequently held several organist positions, most recently at St Columba's Roman Catholic Church in Edinburgh, where he and his wife run an annual music festival. He is Chairman of the Friends of the Music of St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh.

In addition to a lengthy and distinguished legal and academic career, Lord Gill was Chairman of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music from 1999 to 2006. During that time he oversaw a period of expansion including an increase in international recruitment and a widening of the curriculum. Since 2006 he has been Vice President of the RSAMD.

As Chairman of RSCM Council, Lord Gill will lead a team of trustees comprising experienced church musicians, senior clergy and distinguished business figures. Lindsay Gray, Director of the RSCM has welcomed Lord Gill's appointment. "Brian brings an excellent combination of qualities; as well as his work as a church musician, he brings an extensive understanding of the music education scene, along with expert knowledge of the law and procedure as it affects charitable organisations like the RSCM."

Lord Gill is looking forward to the new role. "It is an honour to be invited to chair the Council of the RSCM. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues on the Council in developing the RSCM's many initiatives for singers, instrumentalists and organists."

Lord Gill is married to Catherine Fox; they have five sons and one daughter. As well as church music, he lists among his interests children's and youth charities and architecture. He was a founder and first Chairman of the Scottish Redundant Churches Trust.

Ends

12 March 2010

Notes for Editors

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) is an international ecumenical charity that educates, supports and enables musicians, composers and clergy in promoting sacred music in churches, schools and the wider community. The RSCM publishes music and training resources (such as its popular *Voice for Life* training scheme for singers of all ages), and organises a wide range of courses, short workshops and activities. With over 8,000 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries it is supported by over 600 volunteers in area committees and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at www.rscm.com

Lord Gill is available for interview. Please contact Stuart Robinson or Heather Bamber to make the necessary arrangements.

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