



News from the Royal School of Church Music

RSCM'S POPULAR TRAINING SCHEMES GET NEW MANAGER.

A music teacher from Southampton has been appointed to manage two music training schemes run by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) from its administrative centre in Salisbury. Colin Davey (37) has been appointed to the post of Education Programmes Manager; he will oversee the RSCM's *Voice for Life* programme, a graded scheme for singers of all ages popular all over the world. It's the first of a series of new appointments in the RSCM's Education Department.

As well as the *Voice for Life* scheme, Colin will also manage *Church Music Skills*, a distance-learning programme launched last year for organists, choir directors, cantors and music group leaders. He will be based at the RSCM's offices in Salisbury Cathedral Close.

Colin brings extensive freelance performing and teaching experience to the post, including work as a church musician. Since graduating from Sheffield University in 1995, he has taught at a number of schools throughout the UK. In addition to his new role at the RSCM, he will continue as Director of Music at St Michael and All Angels, Bassett, and as Musical Director of Fareham Philharmonic Society.

Commenting on Colin's appointment, Sue Snell, Head of Education says, "Colin has a wide understanding of the importance of church music in worship, and as someone who uses our training programmes, is well placed to develop them further."

As Education Programmes Manager, Colin takes over from Esther Jones and Leah Perona-Wright, both of whom have developed the *Voice for Life* and *Church Music Skills* programmes over the past decade. Both are continuing their association with the RSCM. Esther will continue as a tutor in the *Church Music Skills* programme, while developing other freelance musical interests, while Leah (who is expecting her second child) will continue as an examiner and volunteer on her local committee. Sue Snell is fulsome in her praise for them. "Arriving as fresh young music graduates, they have continued to work with energy, and never short of new ideas. They have motivated countless church musicians," she said.

Colin Davey has begun work on developing new online resources for the *Voice for Life* scheme, and in overseeing the development of new modules for Music Group Leaders in the *Church Music Skills* programme. Colin is married with one daughter and lists among his interests cooking, bread-making, and cycling. He's a lifelong supporter of Southampton FC.

This appointment is the first in a series of key education appointments during 2010 to be announced shortly, including new Regional Music Advisers in England.

Ends

25 March 2010

Notes for Editors

A photograph of Colin Davey is available from the Picture Gallery of the RSCM website at www.rscm.com/media; please credit "Royal School of Church Music". If you prefer to arrange your own shoot (with Salisbury Cathedral as a backdrop) please contact Stuart Robinson or Heather Bamber (contact details below).

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

For further media enquiries contact:

Stuart Robinson: RSCM Media Relations Organiser srobinson@rscm.com 01492 556378 / 07831 827701

Heather Bamber: RSCM Marketing & Communications Administrator hbamber@rscm.com 01722 424847