



from the Royal School of Church Music

CHURCHES PREPARE TO CELEBRATE *MUSIC SUNDAY* *JUNE 13th 2010.*

Churches throughout the country are making preparations for RSCM Music Sunday on June 13th; a celebration of music in church worship, and the musicians who make it. The occasion is also being marked in a number of broadcasts on BBC Radio and Television.

“On Sunday June 13th, we’re encouraging churches to use one Sunday in the church’s year to celebrate music in worship, in whatever way they can,” says Lindsay Gray, Director of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM). “Try to imagine a Sunday without any music, and you realise how absolutely vital music is to worship. We felt it was high time to recognise and celebrate the hard work and dedication of church musicians!”

A wide variety of events have been registered, ranging from a special collection to concerts and recitals, and services with appropriate hymns, readings and prayers. As attention focusses on South Africa for the World Cup, one RSCM affiliated church in Johannesburg is holding a series of services featuring their music groups followed by an organ crawl around the locality. *Music Sunday* is also being marked on BBC Radio Four with a live broadcast of *Sunday Worship* from an RSCM affiliated choir in Sussex, featuring Jacquelyne Hill, joint BBC Radio Two Chorister of the Year. BBC Radio Two will also mark the day in its edition of *Sunday Half Hour* from Beckenham Parish Church in Kent, and BBC TV’s *Songs of Praise* features hymns sung by RSCM affiliated choirs in Winchester Cathedral.

A major part of *Music Sunday* is *The 50:50 Campaign* in which participating churches can use their event to raise funds and split the proceeds between themselves and the Royal School of Church Music. The RSCM will use its share to fund its education programmes and support of church musicians throughout the world.

A range of ideas for events along with hints and tips, downloadable resources, and suggestions for appropriate music, readings and prayers are available at www.rscm.com/musicsunday.

Ends

4 June 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 volunteers in area committees and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at www.rscm.com

Music Sunday: 13th June 2010. A perfect peg - for your publication to include a feature or profile of the work of the RSCM. We will be pleased to help you with more information, and put you in touch with RSCM staff and affiliated organisations in your region.

Further information and downloads about RSCM Music Sunday can be found at <http://www.rscm.com/musicsunday>. Names of participating choirs, churches and schools are also included. Pictures are available on request.

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