

Awards citations – Celebration Day, 16 May 2009

Malcolm Archer FRSCM

As a choir trainer, Malcolm has achieved the highest standards with all the choirs of which he has been Director, including Bristol, Wells and St Paul's Cathedrals and now as Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College. As a supporter of the RSCM, he has directed courses including last year's Cathedral Course held in Salisbury. Malcolm has a unique gift for composing appropriate music for the changing needs of parish choirs of all sizes and abilities, ever realistic about what can be done well. Many of Malcolm's very popular pieces are published by RSCM Press and are widely used both here and in the United States.

Dr Jonathan Bielby FRSCM

Jonathan has been Director of Music at Wakefield Cathedral since 1970. This makes him England's longest serving cathedral organist. There is no choir school there, so he has worked especially hard to maintain and enhance the tradition. In 1992 the cathedral became the second in Britain to establish a girls' choir. Jonathan has taken a real interest in music throughout the diocese in parish churches, arranging tuition and help where needed. He is a well-respected organ teacher and composer; he is an enthusiastic RSCM supporter who enters cathedral choristers for RSCM awards, leads workshops, and is an active member of the Area Committee.

Dr Neil McEwan FRSCM

Neil has been a church musician since the age of 17 when he was organist and choirmaster in his home town of Invercargill, New Zealand. He moved to Sydney in the early 1960s, where he has been Director of Music at Christ Church St Laurence since 1980. Under his direction, the choir has gained an international reputation for liturgical and concert performance, and has an extensive repertoire ranging from Gregorian chant to the 21st century. Neil is a conductor, organist and broadcaster, and is generous to the RSCM in these capacities, for instance giving master classes at RSCM Summer Schools. He has also studied and conducted in Germany and is the Director of the Sydney Conservatorium choirs.

Dr Noël Tredinnick FRSCM

Noël has made a significant contribution to the development of church music in UK and internationally throughout his career. He is Director of Music at All Souls, Langham Place in London and is a Professor at Guildhall School of Music teaching conducting, orchestration and musicianship. Noël is Artistic Director of the Langham Arts Trust, Vice-chairman of The Jubilate Group, and has been awarded a Lambeth Doctorate of Music. He has contributed to RSCM publications as composer and arranger, and is a regular conductor of BBC *Songs of Praise* and an innovative advocate for the use of orchestral instruments in worship.

Noël is very highly respected across denominations and is a musician who can competently cross barriers between traditional choral repertoire, worship bands, orchestras, gospel choirs and the evangelical and charismatic movements. He has acted as a consultant to the RSCM, and is on our Advisory Panel.

Professor Philip Wilby FRSCM

Philip Wilby was Tutor in Composition at Leeds University from 1984, and was awarded a doctorate in composition and made professor in 2002. He has given outstanding service to church music in the provision of both challenging, contemporary repertoire, many of these pieces written for cathedrals, and also of simple, accessible and very singable works for parish church choirs and children's choirs. Most of his major works are expressions of Christian faith; he has contributed extensively to sacred music composition both here in the UK and in the United States. Last August, Philip made a great contribution at the RSCM International Summer School in Canterbury through his composition tutorials and work with our Millennium Youth Choir.

Robin Bell ARSCM

Robin has been active in Scottish church music for well over 20 years. Of particular mention is his work, through RSCM and the Scottish Federation of Organists, in setting up and administering SCOTS (The Scottish Church Organist Training Scheme): forming a committee, devising the syllabus, producing regular newsletters,

administering training days across Scotland and putting together a countrywide network of organ advisors. This highly successful scheme has given help and encouragement to organists and choir trainers throughout Scotland.

Peter de Blois ARSCM

Peter de Blois has been Director of Music at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Auckland for several years. He has served as an assistant at three other New Zealand cathedrals, and was Director of Music at the Metropolitan Cathedral in Wellington. More importantly, he has served the RSCM particularly and church music generally with his infectious enthusiasm. His work as a tutor over many years, and latterly as Director at residential RSCM schools has been exceptional. He has encouraged and set up opportunities for young people regionally and nationally. He has been a tower of strength in the Auckland Branch of the RSCM.

Alan Wilson ARSCM

Alan makes an invaluable contribution to *Sunday by Sunday*, the RSCM's quarterly liturgy planner, bringing a broad knowledge of hymnody and other forms of congregational song. His workload has been increased by a number of recent changes in the hymn books featured in our tables, and he has coped cheerfully with this despite his many commitments in other areas of musical life both in the UK and in Germany. Alan is Director of Music at Queen's College, University of London, and also makes a regular contributions to the BBC's *Daily Service* as Music Director. In his role as composer has written liturgical music for choirs and congregations.

Iain Nisbet HonRSCM

Iain was a long-serving member of the Guildford Area Committee, latterly as secretary. He was well-known to be an exceptionally efficient contributor, always paying great attention to the important details. In addition to his role as secretary, he also took on the role of Young Persons' Officer for the committee, which he carried out with the same diligence. Despite his already heavy responsibilities, he stepped in as Acting Chairman and kept the Guildford Area secure during an interim period. The RSCM is extremely grateful to Iain for his dedication and hard work over many years.

Pam Rhodes HonRSCM

Pam Rhodes has been a familiar face as a presenter of BBC Television's *Songs of Praise* for over twenty years, conducting high profile meetings with people such as the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Lord Andrew Lloyd Webber, and Dolly Parton, as well as audiences with the Pope and members of the Royal Family. Her enthusiasm for sacred music in all its variety is obvious from the programme, which contributes much to the culture of church music in the UK. Pam is also a writer and journalist, and often comperes large orchestral and musical events at symphony halls around the country.