



News from the Royal School of Church Music

## Over one hundred young choristers to sing Parry's *I was glad* in Bath Abbey

Over one hundred young people from church choirs from all over the UK will be singing Parry's spectacular *I was glad* in Bath Abbey later this month. The anthem (heard and seen by millions at the start of the Royal Wedding earlier this year) will be sung by members of the Royal School of Church Music's (RSCM) annual Young People's Singing Course, which will be based in the city. The week-long course has grown in popularity since it began over thirty years ago. **(Photos available – see Notes for Editors)**

**DIARY MARKER: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> AUGUST 2011 - you are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to Bath Abbey. Details of service and recital times are below. Please contact RSCM to arrange.**

During the week, the singers (aged between 10 and 24 years of age) will have regular opportunities to sing together and receive expert musical training. Many follow the RSCM's *Voice for Life* chorister training programme in their own churches and schools, and are working towards Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. Two young organ scholars (aged 16 and 17) will also receive tuition and have the opportunity to play the Abbey organ.

This popular annual course, based at Kingswood School in Bath, has been in existence for over thirty years. For many of them the course has been directed by Geoff Weaver, a well-travelled and well-known expert in both world music and church music. "It is always a joy and pleasure to lead this course," says Geoff. "I never cease to be amazed, not only at the musical progress during the week, but also the wonderful camaraderie and deep friendships that build up too."

As in previous years, the course culminates in the singing of services at Bath Abbey from Friday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> August. The choristers will also be giving a free lunchtime recital at 1.00pm on the Saturday in the Abbey to which everyone is welcome. The anthem *I was glad* will be sung at Choral Evensong on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> at 5.30pm.

**Ends  
4 August 2011**

### Notes for Editors

Photographs taken at the 2010 course are available free of charge for publication. Please contact Heather Bamber – below.

**Friday 19th August - Evensong, 5.30pm in Bath Abbey**

Music to include Byrd's *Second Service*, and *Gloria in excelsis* by Weelkes

**Saturday 20th August - Recital, 1.00pm in Bath Abbey**

Programme to include music the group has sung during the week. Entry free.

**Saturday 20th August - Evensong, 5.30pm in Bath Abbey**

Music to include Howells' *Gloucester Service* and *I was glad* by Parry

**Sunday 21st August - Mattins, 11.00am in Bath Abbey**

Music to include Stanford's *Te Deum in B flat*, and *A new song* by MacMillan

**Sunday 21st August - Evensong, 3.30pm in Bath Abbey**

Music to include Stanford's *Canticles in C* and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> movements of Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*

**Geoff Weaver** is a well known expert in church music. He has worked as a missionary in the Far East and Africa. He has also been Director of Music at Bradford Cathedral and during the nineties was the Director of Studies and Outreach at the Royal School of Church Music. He directed the music for the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lambeth Conference in 1998 and 2008. Geoff continues to lead courses and workshops all over the world; visits this year include Mauritius, Hong Kong, Kenya and Nigeria.

**The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM)** is an educational charity that promotes the best use of music in worship, church life, and the wider community. The RSCM also publishes music and training resources, and organises courses, short workshops and activities. With around 8,500 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries, it is an international network, supported by over 600 volunteers and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at [www.rscm.com](http://www.rscm.com)

**For further media enquiries contact:**

**Stuart Robinson:** RSCM Media Relations Organiser  
[srobinson@rscm.com](mailto:srobinson@rscm.com) 07831 827701

**Heather Bamber:** RSCM Marketing & Communications Administrator  
[hbamber@rscm.com](mailto:hbamber@rscm.com) 01722 424847

---

The Royal School of Church Music  
19 The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EB  
Tel: 01722 424848  
Fax: 01722 424849

Registered charity no: 312828