



News from the Royal School of Church Music

SONGS OF PRAISE'S ALED AMONG WELL-KNOWN MUSICIANS RECEIVING HONORARY AWARD.

NB: REGIONAL NEWSDESKS. USA: NEW ZEALAND: DURHAM, LIVERPOOL, LONDON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE, HEREFORDSHIRE, LANCASHIRE, NORTHERN IRELAND, CUMBRIA.

Photographs are available from the RSCM website www.rscm.com/media Please contact us (see below for details) for individual photographs.

Singer and broadcaster Aled Jones was one of a number of well-known church musicians to receive an honorary award from the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) during its annual Celebration Day service, held this year in Durham Cathedral. Recipients of honorary awards came from all over the UK and the world to receive either a Fellowship (FRSCM), Associateship (ARSCM), or Honorary Membership (HonRSCM) of the Royal School of Church Music.

Aled Jones was presented with Honorary Membership; an event which will be seen by viewers of BBC TV's *Songs of Praise* programme on 18th July (check TV listings for transmission time nearer the date). The programme will also reflect the life and work of those who are choristers.

Speaking [see below for hyperlink to transcript] during the service, RSCM Director Lindsay Gray spoke of the commitment many choristers make to music in worship week by week, and also of the support given by the RSCM to musicians around the world in many different ways. He referred to an occasion where the RSCM stepped in to assist a young teenage tenor from a black township in South Africa who could not otherwise afford to attend rehearsals because the money for the bus fare was needed to feed his family.

Several of those honoured at the service have personal connections with Durham, including Jeremy Dibble (Professor of Music at Durham University), Richard Lloyd (formerly Organist at Durham Cathedral) and Mark Williams, who retires as Chair of RSCM Council in July 2010. Mark was an undergraduate student at St Chad's College and a choral scholar at the Cathedral. Presentation of certificates was also made to those who have complete *Sacred Music Studies* and *Church Music Skills* courses.

Over 350 choristers from RSCM-affiliated churches took part in the service, joined by the Durham Cathedral Choir, directed by Canon James Lancelot and accompanied by Sub-Organist Keith Wright. The service was led by Revd Canon Dr David Kennedy, the Vice Dean of Durham Cathedral.

A full list of those receiving honorary awards at the service follows, with the text of the citations below.

Fellowship (FRSCM)

For achievements of international significance, or exceptional work for the RSCM

Cynthia DeDakis	Former President, RSCM America
Professor Jeremy Dibble	Durham University, leading music scholar
Philip Duffy	Former Master of the Music, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral
Trevor Ford	Former Vice-Chairman of RSCM Council
Paul Hale	Organist & Rector Chori, Southwell Minster, Chairman RSCM Southwell and Notts Area Committee
Richard Lloyd	Composer and former Durham Cathedral organist
Mark Williams	Chair of RSCM Council

Associateship (ARSCM)

For achievements of national significance, or important work for the RSCM

John Catterall MBE	Active church musician in NW England, Chairman RSCM Lancashire Area Committee
The Rt Revd Edward Darling	Retired Church of Ireland Bishop, hymnody expert
Peter Dyke	Assistant Organist Hereford Cathedral, Chairman of RSCM Herefordshire Area Committee
Jeremy Suter	Organist and Master of the Choristers, Carlisle Cathedral
Roy Tankersley	Director of Winter School RSCM New Zealand, active church musician at community and national level
Alan Wilson	composer, contributor to <i>Sunday by Sunday</i> liturgy planner (awarded in 2009)

Honorary Membership (HonRSCM)

For exceptional or very significant work for church music or RSCM, at national or International level but not primarily musical or liturgical

Aled Jones	Singer and broadcaster, presenter of <i>Good Morning Sunday</i> (BBC Radio 2) and <i>Songs of Praise</i> (BBC TV)
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Also awarded but unable to attend the service:

Robert Prizeman ARSCM	Founder and Director of <i>Libera</i> , Music Adviser BBC TV's <i>Songs of Praise</i>
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John Hume HonRSCM

Active leading church musician, RSCM New Zealand

Cynthia DeDakis FRSCM / from USA

Cindy has recently retired as President of RSCM America, and has done much to change the culture of the organisation in the USA, and especially the image and operation of the board. She has been a course manager and *Voice for Life* coordinator, and was the first female president. She is a very well-respected church musician (choral conductor and singer) in her own right.

Professor Jeremy Dibble FRSCM / from Durham

Jeremy is one of the world's leading authorities on British romantic music, writing the definitive books on Stanford, Stainer and Parry. He has edited Stanford canticles, Parry anthems and other such works for the RSCM, which are now regarded as the definitive editions of those works. It is particularly apt to honour him in Durham, where he has been on the staff at the University since 1993.

Philip Duffy FRSCM / from Liverpool

Philip is a gifted musician, whose work at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral in developing a choral foundation is greatly admired. He has influenced generations of choristers, worked with the local RSCM in festivals and formed a worship structure, combining the best choral music from all traditions and contributing much as a composer. Philip also served on RSCM Council for 8 years.

Trevor Ford FRSCM / from London

Trevor has given long and distinguished service to the RSCM, initially as editor of *Church Music Quarterly* and more recently as a member of Council. In addition to serving on the Council, he has used his considerable financial acumen as a key member of the Finance Group. Trevor has also been a very active church musician, formerly directing the choir at St John's, Palmers Green, London where he still provides much backup and support. He is still involved in the RSCM, serving as a member of the Advisory and Consultative Panel.

Paul Hale FRSCM / from Southwell, Nottinghamshire

Paul has worked tirelessly for the RSCM for many years - directing chorister and organist courses in the UK and the USA, examining RSCM awards and devising and conducting choral festivals. He was a member of the RSCM Rochester Committee for 11 years, and now chairs the Southwell & Notts Committee. As Rector Chori and Organist at Southwell Minster, Paul is known for the consistently high standard of the choir. He is also well-known as an organ recitalist, conductor of the Nottingham Bach Choir and designer of an increasing number of fine church and cathedral organs.

Richard Lloyd FRSCM / ex-Durham

Richard has made an enormous contribution to church music. As an organist and choirmaster he will be especially remembered for his work at Durham Cathedral where he led the music with distinction for 11 years. As a composer, he is widely known and admired, having written anthems for the smallest village church choirs on one hand and challenging works for cathedral choirs at the other end of the spectrum. He continues to compose throughout most of the year with the exception of an important annual break during the height of the cricket season!

Mark Williams FRSCM / ex-Durham

Mark Williams has served the RSCM as a Council Member since 1992, and has been Chairman of Council since July 2005. In his youth, Mark sang with John Harper at Birmingham Cathedral and was a choral scholar at Durham Cathedral during his time at the university where he is now a Foundation Fellow of St Chad's. His career has been in the city, experience that has proved invaluable in dealing with the RSCM's finances and the move from Cleveland Lodge to Salisbury. Mark has been extraordinarily generous towards the RSCM not only in making substantial donations, but also providing meeting rooms in London and supporting the Directors. We are immensely grateful for his insight, calm approach, and good governance of the RSCM. He leaves the Council in July with an organization that is financially sound and secure – and I should like to add my special personal thanks to Mark with whom it has been a delight and a privilege to work.

John Catterall MBE ARSCM / from Preston, Lancashire

For the past 44 years John has run the choir of boys and men at St John Baptist, Broughton, Preston. His dedication, enthusiasm and musical ability ensures a flourishing thriving treble line and back rows – no less than 36 boys and 32 men, with many choristers gaining RSCM medals and participating in Northern Cathedral Singers and RSCM Cathedral Courses. John has served as RSCM Lancashire Area Chairman for the past 15 years.

The Rt Revd Edward Darling ARSCM / from Ireland

Bishop Edward has served in the Church of Ireland all his life. He was Bishop of Limerick and Killaloe from 1985 to 2000. He is an accomplished liturgist, hymnodist and musician who continues to make a distinguished contribution to the life of the church. He was the general editor of both *Irish Church Praise* and the fifth edition of the *Church Hymnal*. Bishop Edward is currently Executive President (Chairman) of The Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

Peter Dyke ARSCM / from Hereford

Peter is assistant organist at Hereford Cathedral and has been chairman of the RSCM Hereford and South Shropshire Area Committee since 2001. In that time he has worked tirelessly to promote the RSCM locally, organising the well-supported annual diocesan choirs' festival and actively encouraging singers to enter for RSCM awards. Peter is the founder of the Diocese of Hereford Organists' Training Scheme, which has done much to help recruit and retain parish organists in the diocese.

Jeremy Suter ARSCM / from Cumbria

Since 1991 Jeremy has been Master of the Music at Carlisle Cathedral and during that time has maintained a fine music tradition in spite of the recruitment challenges in a small city without a choir school. He has been instrumental in expanding the Border Cathedrals Festival, and is active in local musical circles, notably the Cumbrian Society of Organists and Carlisle Festival. Jeremy has been a long-serving and active area committee member, supportive of local initiatives and of the RSCM in its varied activities.

Roy Tankersley ARSCM / from New Zealand

Roy has run and continues to run, support and motivate a large number of church music activities at community and national level in New Zealand. He has been very active for the RSCM for many years, including involvement as a director of the Winter School. He is an organ consultant, motivator, workshop presenter, recitalist and choir trainer, as well as running an enterprising educational video project.

Alan Wilson ARSCM (awarded in 2009 but was unable to attend Celebration Day)

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 he has written liturgical music for choirs and congregations.

Aled Jones HonRSCM / from London

Aled has been involved in church music for most of his life; today, he is particularly known for his work as a broadcaster and as a strong supporter of church music in all styles. As a boy, Aled was one of the finest treble soloists heard in the UK during the twentieth century, whilst more

recently, through his musicianship allied to a warm, enthusiastic and approachable style, he has done an enormous amount through *Songs of Praise* and other television and radio programmes to bring church music to millions of people.

Ends

17 May 2010

Notes for Editors

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 over 8,000 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries it is an international network, supported by over 750 volunteers and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at www.rscm.com

The RSCM has made honorary awards since 1946; a detailed list of recipients is available at www.rscm.com

Photographs can be downloaded from www.rscm.com/media, and more are available on request.

The full text of Lindsay Gray's speech is available at http://www.rscm.com/ukIreland/cel_day_2010.php

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