



News Release from the Royal School of Church Music

LEADING CHURCH MUSIC APPOINTMENT FOR EAST ANGLIA

A Cambridgeshire-based music teacher and examiner has been appointed to a leading church music rôle in the East of England. Jan Payne who runs a busy teaching practice near Cambridge, has been appointed as Regional Co-ordinator for East Anglia and Lincolnshire by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM); the charity which supports and promotes the use of sacred music.

Mrs Payne will oversee and support the work of area committees in Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, in organising musical events and training workshops for church musicians, including singers and instrumentalists. Mrs Payne is also Music Adviser in the Anglican Ely Diocese and Director of the Ely Cathedral Octagon Singers. Commenting on her appointment, Jan Payne says, *“Churches are being challenged to think again about the quality and type of worship they offer, of which music can be an integral part. The task of sustaining quality, live music in our churches is an exciting one. I am very much looking forward to working with RSCM colleagues, ministers, musicians and congregations throughout the Eastern Region and helping them to explore new initiatives and opportunities as well as uphold and sustain established good practice and tradition.”*

Mrs Payne was born in Cambridge and trained professionally as an oboist at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, London, where she also studied piano and singing. In 1998 and 2008 she was an oboist on the resident music team at the Lambeth Conference. She has also served on the Ely Committee of the RSCM, as Education and Training Officer and as a validated examiner. Announcing Jan Payne’s appointment as Regional Co-ordinator, Lindsay Gray, the Director of the RSCM says, *“Jan has a very broad approach to music in worship; she will be able to work both in traditional and more diverse church settings throughout East Anglia and Lincolnshire, and right across the range of denominations represented by our friends and affiliated churches.”* Jan Payne’s first task will be to review current membership of the RSCM and to oversee the recruitment of more churches to the work of the RSCM in supporting and upholding church music.

ENDS.

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A photograph of Jan Payne can be downloaded from the Picture Gallery in the Media section of the website – go to www.rscm.com/media

The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) is an educational charity and 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 8,500 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

In East Anglia and Lincolnshire there are four area committees who organise an annual round of music events for church musicians. The area committees also administer the RSCM *Voice for Life* scheme, in which singers from churches and schools can take singing examinations for Bronze, Silver and Gold awards.

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