

## What's on in Scotland

**Voice for Life** training days – the RSCM Scotland team is planning workshops around Scotland this year, but only the Edinburgh date has been finalised so far. Please keep an eye on our website for more information.

- **Anglican Chant Workshop and Evensong** at St Adrian's Church, Sandy Loan, Gullane. **11 March** from 1500 – 1800. £ donation. Congregation members welcome to attend the service at 1700.
- **Exploring Music, Ministry and Worship** for clergy, musicians and worship leaders of all churches **29 April** from 1330 – 1530. Costs £5 for members and £7 for non-members with £1 discount if booked by 13 April.
- **Plainsong Workshop and Compline** for adults and young people **29 April** from 1600 – 1900. £ donation. Both events are at St Peter's Lutton Place Edinburgh. Congregation members welcome to attend the service at 1800.
- **Young Voices Festival** in Dunblane Cathedral **9 June** from 1400 – 1700. (see inside for more information)
- **Young chorister's workshop** (7–16) at St Cuthbert's Colinton, Edinburgh. Choir trainers welcome. **16 June** from 1400 – 1600 £4/£7
- **Dunblane Singing Break** for adults **16–19 July** at Scottish Churches House and the Cathedral. £225/£270. Go to [www.rscm.com/courses](http://www.rscm.com/courses) for further details.
- **"Dunblane" Singing Day** for everyone at Perth Cathedral **3 November**. (see page 1)

If you are interested in registering for any of these events, or would like to discuss hosting something in your church please contact Pat – details below.

### Contact details

You may contact all committee members by email - addresses are [firstname@rscmscotland.org](mailto:firstname@rscmscotland.org) – e.g. [pat@rscmscotland.org](mailto:pat@rscmscotland.org) Telephone enquiries to Pat on 01620 892228. Our website is [www.rscmscotland.org](http://www.rscmscotland.org) – please make use of the available posters and do keep checking for updated information.

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## RSCM Scotland Newsletter

Issue 3 – February 2007

Welcome to our third RSCM Scotland newsletter. It's a little late we know, but publication was held back so that we could confirm dates in the **What's on** section (on the back page). We have some interesting events coming up and hope that you will be able to attend. Do remember to keep an eye on **The Network** (which is delivered along with your Church Music Quarterly). If you would like to see something similar happening in your area, please do contact us and we can try to work something out.

We have had a huge increase in our email recipients – if you would like to join them, please contact Pat. Alternatively if you wish to cancel your subscription, an email to her will have the desired effect.

**This newsletter may be copied and shared. Why not pin yours on a notice board?**

### New committee member

The RSCM Scotland committee is delighted to welcome Drummond McNicol to its ranks. Many members met him and other committee members in Linlithgow at the RSCM Scotland Triennial Festival.

This year's annual **"Dunblane" Singing Day** will be held in.....Perth ! We are delighted to accept the invitation by St Ninian's Cathedral to host our Singing Day this year and hope that our regular attendees are happy to travel to a new (and wonderful) venue. The Day will be directed by Perth Cathedral's Director of Music, Richard Walmsley. More details nearer the time but please put the date in your diary now - **Saturday 3 November**.

**Nicola**, who besides being a member of the committee is a professional singer and singing teacher, recently responded to a request from the choir at St Cuthbert's Church in Colinton Edinburgh for some assistance with introducing their young members to choral singing. A Saturday afternoon in November was arranged, and she led a practical workshop for 12 children. After starting with vocal exercises and warm-ups, she rehearsed some music for Christmas. Meanwhile, **Pat** was at hand to talk with parents about the *Voice for Life (VfL)* scheme. At the end of the two hours, the children performed one of the pieces they had learned. A return visit has been arranged for 16 June, which will be open to children, young people and choir trainers.

**Workshops are available throughout the year and will cater to your choir's particular needs. Please contact Pat for further information or to book a workshop.**

**St Andrew's awards** Congratulations to our latest successful candidates - 3 adults this time - who achieved their awards last summer. We now have 16 awards in Scotland:

Bronze - Kirsten Mann (merit) Carnoustie Church, Mary McNicol (merit) Giffnock United Reformed Church; Silver - Mary Birch (dist) St Mary's Church, Dunblane; Gold - Margaret Anne Walker, St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow who all received their awards at the **Triennial Festival**...

....talking of which, it was a wonderful sight to see so many assembled at St Michael's Church, Linlithgow on November 4<sup>th</sup>. We know that some members had been put off coming because of the difficulty experienced in obtaining the music booklet and we are very sorry that circumstances conspired against us all. In mitigation, we have already started planning the next one (2009). **Dr David Sutherland** who raised £1000 for RSCM Scotland (which will be used to fund voice and choir training activities) was presented with a quach as a token of our gratitude. **Isabel Ginty**, one of the young people who attended wrote:

"Most people were from church choirs but others like me belong to other singing groups. After we arrived and registered we divided into 2 choirs and warmed up with Edward Caswell. Frikki Walker, our conductor, then started the choir rehearsal. We went for tea and biscuits at Cross House down the hill and returned to the church, got seated and prepared for service. Michael Harris played some organ music before the service began. The service lasted about an hour and went really well. We all sang our best and enjoyed the music. Near the end of the service, we watched the people who had done singing exams get their awards and other people had presentations too. It was a very successful day and I enjoyed myself very much."

### **Fundraising**

Those who joined us at Linlithgow heard Matthew explain that the work of RSCM Scotland is not funded by RSCM centrally (although we are helped and supported) and that we need to raise our own funds in order to offer training and support to our Scottish members. The committee would like to fund other initiatives within Scotland, particularly outreach to small congregations in the more remote areas, but is hampered by lack of income. If you think that you could offer to help us, by fundraising yourself, donating a small amount each month under GiftAid or giving a single donation (perhaps in memory of a loved one) you will be helping to sustain church music in Scotland for future generations. Please email Kathleen our Treasurer or telephone Pat.

### **CALLING ALL YOUNG SINGERS**

RSCM Scotland will be holding its first ever **Young Voices Festival** in June in Dunblane Cathedral. We are looking to invite children from school or church choirs from all over Scotland. Similar services are held in other RSCM regions and provide a great opportunity for young singers to get together in large numbers to sing. The date is **Saturday June 9th** and the Event will run from 2.00, concluding with a Festival Service in the Cathedral at 5.00. The music will be taken from the new RSCM Voice for Life Songbook. We would like to send out invitations to any church and school choirs who might be interested, specifically targeting boys and girls in the P5 - S3 age group (boys unbroken voices) If your Choir would like an invitation, or if you know of a school or church who might, please e-mail Matthew.

**Sheila** was delighted to be invited to attend and contribute to the November meeting of the Tayside Society of Organists in Craigiebank Church, Dundee. Trebles from Craigiebank Junior Singers, under the able direction of Ron Turbyne, demonstrated what *Voice for Life* has to offer. As it is not well known in the area, time for questions and opportunity to view a selection of RSCM resource materials was appreciated. The first part of the evening ended with a short concert beautifully sung by the trebles. Well done to Ron for organizing the event and the singers, and to the organists who gave a splendid recital on the Rushworth Organ to conclude a very rewarding evening.

### **....and finally**

Observant readers will have noticed the change of font size for this Newsletter. This is because we have had so much to tell you this time and we did want to keep it to the same A4 format. If this is a problem to you, please let us know.