

NEWS



On 18 February we celebrated our fifth birthday with a **Singing Day at Holy Trinity, Maisons-Laffitte**, where we received a very warm welcome and much practical help and organisation from the members there. They had hosted us previously so we knew what to expect, but it was a joy to return. We used the RSCM book « With saintly shout and solemn jubilee » again, choosing music suitable for choral evensong. The day was led by Nigel McClintock, Director of Music at St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast, Northern Ireland, and was well attended by many of our stalwart supporters in the Paris area, plus some new recruits. After the service we retired to the church hall where our birthday was toasted in « fizz ».

Then on 9-11 June our last **Residential Weekend** took place at Renouveau holiday village in Roquebrune-sur-Argens in the Var. Sadly, Renouveau is closing as the site is to be developed for housing and it was with reluctance we said goodbye to the staff as they had been so welcoming over the 5 years we had been going there. We have also decided that the Weekend is no longer viable so we will offering a different event in the south-east next year. It was led by Adrian Lucas, Head of Choral Studies at the RSCM and Director of the Millennium Youth Choir. We were so fortunate to have such a high-powered leader, and he made us work, but with humour and encouragement so that we achieved our best. Once again, we were invited by St John's Church, St Raphaël, to lead their worship on the Sunday morning, which was a very joyful occasion.



See website for report and photos of these events : www.rscmfrance.org

Our future events are listed below, but there will be more to come as arrangements are finalised. We do hope you will join us.

Our website is updated regularly, where details and booking forms for all events can be found as soon as they are available : www.rscmfrance.org.

If you would like more information about membership of RSCM France, or about our events, please contact us on rscmfrance@gmail.com.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

NATIONAL FESTIVAL

American Cathedral, 23 av George-V, Paris 8^e. 21 October 2017



We are delighted to have as our Musical Director for this event the eminent choir trainer and organist Malcolm Archer, one of the world's leading church musicians, who has enjoyed a distinguished career in cathedral music, which has taken him to posts at Norwich, Bristol, Wells Cathedrals and then Director of Music at St. Paul's Cathedral in London. He is now Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College, where he is responsible for the College's ancient choral foundation; conducting the Chapel Choir and teaching the organ. We shall be using the RSCM Festival book « Reform and Renewal » for Choral Evensong. Please come and join us on this special occasion.

See website for details and booking form : www.rscmfrance.org

Farewell to Andrew Reid

It was in early May that we learned that our esteemed Director, Andrew Reid, who has been at the helm of RSCM for five years, had decided to step down from his post. Andrew will not, however, be lost to the cause of church music, as he is moving to become Managing Director of the noted Durham organ builders, Harrison and Harrison.

In a letter to Andrew, our Chairman, John Crothers, wrote:

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for letting us know about your moving to take up a fresh challenge. I can see that it will be something that you will relish in many ways.

I need hardly say – and I know this will be on behalf of all of us here at RSCM France – that we have enormously appreciated your talents, commitment and expert guidance over the years. You will be greatly missed, but you will, I think, be leaving the RSCM in a stronger, more confident place than you found it, and for this we are thankful to you and to God...

In his reply, Andrew expressed his deep gratitude for our encouragement and support over the years.

Andrew has shown himself to be a consummate musician and performer, teacher and encourager. In particular, he has always been able to locate our work in RSCM firmly in the context of Christian faith and action: no one who has heard him speak at any of the Summer Schools, for example, can be in any doubt about that.

It will not be easy to find a replacement for someone who was 'at the top of his game' in so many areas of expertise, but our prayers and good wishes accompany Council as they seek someone to take the movement forward into the third decade of the twenty-first century and towards our Centenary.

ORGAN LESSONS

Our Chairman, John Crothers, is offering organ lessons in the Paris area from near-beginners up to experienced level at €30 per hour, a proportion of which will be donated to RSCM France. Please enquire at rscmfrance@gmail.com or telephone the Secretary on 04 94 50 38 46.
