

**SHEFFIELD AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE NEWS**

Promoting excellence in church music in the Diocese of Sheffield

**Welcome...**

To the new newsletter for the RSCM in Sheffield and South Yorkshire. At our recent committee meetings we have been considering how we publicize our events, and get the information to church musicians, clergy, and other interested people across our Diocese. We hope that you will find the information contained within this newsletter useful, and be able to share it with the musicians within your church, and anyone else who may be interested in our events and what is happening locally.

We would also welcome content from your church for inclusion within our newsletter. Whether it be concerts, recitals, or special services, we would like to hear about them, and will endeavour to include them in future issues!

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What is the RSCM aiming to achieve?

We aim to support our members through:-

- practical and applied programmes of education and training.
- music-making at festivals and courses.
- music and training resources.
- information, advice and guidance.

We aim to serve the wider church by:-

- encouraging music-making in general, and singing in particular.
- providing training in essential skills for church music.
- developing understanding of music in the church's ministry and worship.
- encouraging good music everywhere through fostering outreach from the churches into the community engaging with young people in singing.



Last year we held our Diocesan Festival at Rotherham Minster on Saturday 14th November. We had over 50 singers attend the day to sing music by Balfour Gardiner, Stanford, Brewer and Haydn. Our Director for the day was our new chairman, Ray Gallagher, and our accompanists were Cory Lovell and Robert Webb. There was also a presentation of awards by our former chair, Revd Helen Bent, who is now the RSCM Head of Ministerial Training.



## 2016 Events

### About this years events...

We are pleased to announce that this year's Diocesan Festival will take place at Sheffield Cathedral on Sunday 16th October, it is many years since we have held an event at the Cathedral, and we look forward to returning there this year.

One of the things we try and balance in our event planning, is location of venues, which are generally split between Sheffield and Doncaster.

This year, we are running some events in both Sheffield and Doncaster, meaning people have a choice of venues to attend. Our Award taster sessions are also being held on two different dates, so if you can't attend the session nearest to you, there is another opportunity to attend on a different date.

### RSCM Awards Taster Sessions

Sunday 21st February 2pm-4pm

Sheffield Venue with Robert Webb (Education and Training Officer)

Saturday 27th February 10.30am-12.30pm

Doncaster Minster with Darren Williams (Awards Administrator)

There is no charge for these events.

(For further information about our Awards, please see the article on p.4)

### Music and Readings for Passiontide

Sunday 13th March at Doncaster Minster

Arrive from 2.30pm Rehearsal 3pm-4.30pm

Service 5pm

Come and Sing Music for Passiontide under the direction of Darren Williams (Director of Music, Doncaster Minster). We will be using the RSCM publication "The Cross of Christ" as the basis for the service, of which copies will be available for use on the day. Our time will conclude with an act of worship incorporating hymns, readings, and anthems to which all are welcome.

£1 per singer affiliates, £3 per singer non affiliates

### Young Persons Festival & Instrumental Workshop

Saturday 11th June 10.30am—approx. 5pm

St James' Clifton, Rotherham

Two events in one! Our Young Persons Festival will take place in the church hall, whilst instrumentalists will rehearse separately in the Church. At 4pm, we will all come together for an act of worship to which all are welcome. (This is a Music Sunday event with proceeds being shared between the St James' and RSCM Central)

£1 per singer/instrumentalist affiliates, £3 non affiliates

## **Music Sunday Choral Festival**

Sunday 12th June

Doncaster Minster—6pm directed by Darren Williams

St John's, Ranmoor, Sheffield—6.30pm directed by Ian Roberts

Special services of music to celebrate the 90th birthday of our patron, her Majesty, the Queen, with music to include Parry's "I Was Glad", and Handel's "Zadok the Priest". There will be an afternoon rehearsal on the day of each event. (These are Music Sunday events with proceeds shared between the host churches and RSCM Central).

£1 per singer, £3 per singer non affiliates.

## **RSCM Award Examinations**

Thursday 30th June Times T.B.C.

Gordon Appleton has once again agreed to come and exam for us. We plan a morning session in Doncaster, and an afternoon session in Sheffield, based on numbers of applicants.

(For further information about our Awards, please see the article on p.4, or come to one of the Taster events in February)

## **Diocesan Festival**

Sunday 16th October Times T.B.C.

Sheffield Cathedral

Our Diocesan Festival and Presentation of awards will this year take place at Sheffield Cathedral, under the direction of Neil Taylor (Director of Music, Sheffield Cathedral), and accompanied by Joshua Hales (Assistant Director of Music, Sheffield Cathedral). Music details to be confirmed.

Cost;- £1 per singer, £3 per singer non affiliates.

## **Your Local RSCM Committee**

Chair—Ray Gallagher

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Secretary—Barry Sampson

Treasurer—Paul Hudson

Education and Training  
Officer—Robert Webb

Awards Administrator—  
Darren Williams

Young Persons Officer—  
Miss Ruth Sunderland

Cathedral Representative—  
Joshua Hales

Regional Coordinator—  
Simon Russell

Other committee members

Revd Helen Bent,

Mrs Barbara Sunderland,

Mrs Catherine Moody,

Ian Roberts

We currently have vacancies on our local committee for a Membership Officer, and a Publicity Officer. If you would be interested to join our committee to take on one of these roles, please contact Ray Gallagher.

# RSCM Singing Awards Information

The RSCM provides a system of awards assessed by formal examination: the Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. These form part of the Voice for Life training scheme.

Bronze and Silver Awards are administered locally, while the Gold award is centrally administered.

In recent years, candidates from the Sheffield and South Yorkshire have been successful at all three levels of examination.

There is a syllabus for each level of examination, and we can provide support to choir trainers who have candidates they would like to put forward for examination.

For further details, please contact Robert Webb (Education and Training Officer), at [shefieldrscm@gmail.com](mailto:shefieldrscm@gmail.com), or attend one of the two taster sessions we have organized on Sunday 21st or Saturday 27th February.



## Contact Us

If you have any information for inclusion in future newsletters, please send by 14th of each month.

Also, please contact us to be added, or removed from our mailing lists.

All correspondence can be sent to:- [shefieldrscm@gmail.com](mailto:shefieldrscm@gmail.com)

# Local Upcoming Events

## Organ Recitals at Doncaster Minster—All 1.10-2pm

February 26th      Stephen Maxson—Grimsby

March 18th      Jordan English—Carlisle

Free admission with retiring collection

## Doncaster Minster Community Choir

There is a new community choir which runs at Doncaster Minster on Mondays from 12.30-1.15, directed by Darren Williams. No previous singing experience necessary. Cost £2 per session including refreshments.