

## e-Newsletter

## Autumn 2017

Autumn is here again, and with it a new season of exciting events organised by **RSCM Devon Area**.

The dates of events organised so far, up to the end of 2018, are included in this Newsletter, but new events will be added so please visit our [website](#) from time to time to keep up to date.

You may have experienced difficulties accessing our website from a tablet or phone, this is being addressed and the site should be fully “*ipad & phone friendly*” by the end on November.

Please forward this Newsletter to friends and acquaintances who you think may be interested, printing it out for any who do not have email.

## A Devon Pilgrimage in Song

What an amazing day of mini-pilgrimage it was! A group of just over twenty singers, many of them local to the area, set out to walk between three churches in the Upper Teign Valley on Bank Holiday Monday in late May.

At 10 am we assembled in Christow church, the first of the three churches we visited that day. Here we rehearsed our selection of music with a pilgrimage theme, chosen and led by Devon Area Chairman, Andrew Maries. Team Vicar, Graham Mayer, led the worship in each church, using liturgy from the Iona Abbey Worship Book (which suited our purpose very well), and after singing *Sizo hamba (We are on the Lord's road)* and *Forth in thy name*, we set out.

Avoiding the main road through the valley, we managed the ups and downs of the Devon lanes, reaching the second church at Higher Ashton for a mid-morning service. Music included *I heard the voice of Jesus say, Brother, sister let me serve you* and *Teach me, O God* – a psalm composed by Christopher Walker. Here – as elsewhere – we were hosted by kindly churchwardens who gave us a warm welcome, providing drinks and making sure the churches were fit for worship by the lighting of candles, etc.



We then set off for Doddiscombsleigh, partly along a footpath across the fields – and then the rain struck! Undaunted, we pressed on and found the church – so well hidden that it had even escaped the depredations of Cromwell's troops in the Civil War. Thankfully, some of the pre-Reformation stained glass windows survived. After eating our picnics, we were able to move out to the churchyard for afternoon prayers, as the sun dried out some of our damp clothing. A rendition of *Never weather beaten saile* summed up our company, and we also sang Parry's chant to Psalm 84, and John Bell's *Take this moment*.

Then it was back to Christow for closing worship, including *Here in this place* by Mary Haugen, a St Louis Jesuit version of Psalm 27, and the inclusive *All who*

*would valiant be*. A magnificent teatime spread laid on by ladies in the nearby Christow Community Hall made a wonderful finish. The whole event had been hugely memorable!

Lionel Holmes

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

## Annual Choral Festival “O God of Earth and Altar”

**Saturday 11th November 2017**

If you have not already requested your music books - please hurry - so that you have a chance to look at the music ahead of the regional rehearsals in October. There is a fantastic variety of music included this year, including excerpts from Requiems by Fauré and Rutter, settings by Vaughan Williams of poems by Shelley and G.K.Chesterton, and two major church anthems - John Ireland's "Greater Love," and Edgar Bainton's "I saw a new heaven."

Rehearsal notes and recordings of some of the music may be streamed or downloaded by following the links on [this page](#) of our website, and the order form for the books downloaded by clicking [here](#).

The full programme and schedule for the day is listed below.

Anthem	Faure - Introit & Kyrie from Requiem
Hymn	O God of Earth and Altar
Anthem	Ireland - Greater Love
Psalm 46	God is our hope and strength
Hymn	God! as with silent hearts we bring to mind
Anthem	Vaughan Williams - Song for the New Age
Hymn	Dear Lord and Father of mankind
Anthem	Orlando Gibbons - Peace, perfect peace
Prayer Response	John Bell - Kyrie Eleison
Anthem	John Rutter - Psalm 23 from Requiem
Anthem	Bainton - And I saw a new heaven
Hymn	We rest on thee,our Shield and our Defender

### Schedule for the day

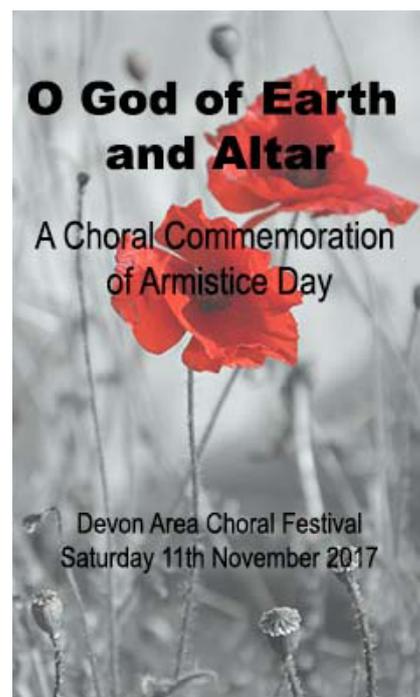
10.45 am	Assemble in Chapter House, or attend the short Remembrance Service in the Nave
11.15 am	Rehearsals: Upper Voices in Nave, Tenors and Basses in Chapter House
12.45 pm	Lunch (own arrangements)
2.00 pm	Rehearsal in Nave
3.30 pm	Break for Robing
3.50 pm	Re-assemble in Nave
4.00 pm	Service
5.15 pm	Estimated finish

### Regional Rehearsals

Tuesday 24th October	7.30pm-9pm	<a href="#">Chapter House, Exeter Cathedral EX1 1HS</a>
Monday 30th October	7.30pm-9pm	<a href="#">St Paul's Church, Honiton, EX14 1PG</a>
Monday 30th October	7.30pm-9pm	<a href="#">Church of the Holy Spirit, Clitford Road, Southway Plymouth PL6 6EJ</a>
Tuesday 31st October	7.30pm-9pm	<a href="#">St Mary's Church, High Street, Totnes TQ9 5NN</a>

(Directors: Timothy Parsons, Nick Brown, Fenny Gill, Janet Dietz)

[PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE as it is of the greatest importance for ensuring a superb performance on the day]



# Saturday Schools 2017

## Brush up before Christmas!

Saturday Schools are a new initiative from the RSCM providing targeted training in your local area for choirs, music groups, and their leaders.

The next of these will be held in Cullompton, Devon and will be led by Rosemary Field (RSCM Deputy Director), Miles Quick (RSCM Head of Congregational and Instrumental Music) and Andrew Maries, (RSCM Devon).

There will be two alternative strands to choose from; come along and we will sort out the best sessions for you on arrival.

### CHORAL

Led by Rosemary Field  
For choirs who would like help with singing in parts, technique and repertoire

### LIFT UP YOUR VOICE! (OR PICK UP YOUR INSTRUMENT!)

Led by Andrew Maries and Miles Quick.  
For singers and instrumentalists from churches with limited resources but a desire to find new ways to worship through music



### How to book - by 20 October 2017

Contact Jerry King (Somerset Area Secretary)  
01278 662597 / 07803 927137  
jerry@king14.demon.co.uk



## Somerset Area

Autumn Date:  
28 October 2017  
2.00pm - 5.00pm, with breaks for refreshments

RSCM Affiliate price:  
£15 per group (up to 20 people)  
£5 on the door for individuals

Non-Affiliate price:  
£20 per group (up to 20 people)  
£7.50 on the door for individuals

Location:

Cullompton Community Centre,  
Pye Corner, Cullompton  
EX15 1JX



# Come and Sing Candlelit Choral Evensong for St Cecilia's Day, St Petrox Dartmouth,

Tuesday 21st November 5.30 for 7.30 pm  
Director Simon Dunbavand (St Andrew's Paignton)  
Organist Richard Lea (Buckfast Abbey)



Details from [topher.jah44@gmail.com](mailto:topher.jah44@gmail.com) OR Dartmouth Parish Office.  
Torbay, Totnes and Woodleigh Deaneries welcome but no limits. All are welcome!

## Advent Carol Service Buckfast Abbey

Saturday 2nd December 2017

Directed by Philip Arkwright

The annual Devon Area Advent Carol Service will be held on Saturday 2nd December at Buckfast Abbey, under the direction of Philip Arkwright.

There will be a rehearsal at 1.30, time for tea at 3.30 and the service in the Abbey Church will be at 4.30.

To apply for the music, please send £5 per adult, £1 per child (made payable to RSCM Devon Area) to Nicholas Brown, Little Pitt Cottage, Whitchurch Canonorum, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 6RG

Contact: Nicholas Brown [nbrownpiano32@btinternet.com](mailto:nbrownpiano32@btinternet.com)

Cost: £5 adults, £1 children (see above)



Advent  
Carol Service  
Buckfast Abbey  
Saturday 2nd December

## Keeping up to date

There is a link on the website to a Google Calendar, listing events organised by RSCM Devon.

As well as viewing the calendar on the website, you can 'subscribe' to this calendar so that events appear in the calendar on your own tablet or smart phone. [Click here for full details.](#)

## Your contributions

We would like to have your contributions for future Newsletters. These could include but are not limited to:

- photographs and reviews of events attended.
- experiences (either serious or humorous) of life in a church choir, or as an organist
- music or a hymn which has a special significance for you
- thoughts or suggestions of future activities,
- ways in which *RSCM Devon Area* may help your choir.

Please send contributions to [colinashby@gmail.com](mailto:colinashby@gmail.com).

# Dates for your diary 2018

Proposed Events for 2018 Items in bold type are confirmed. To keep up to date with our programme of events visit [www.rscm-devon.org.uk](http://www.rscm-devon.org.uk) or subscribe to our on-line [calendar](#).

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
Saturday 10 February 2018	Proposed Mini Music Day for churches in Mid Devon	Crediton
<b>Saturday 24 February 2018</b>	<b>Come and Sing Choral Evensong</b>	<b>Exeter Cathedral</b>
Sunday 29 April 2018	<b>Event Celebrating St Eustachian Anniversary with a Celebration Service at 6pm</b>	<b>Tavistock</b>
Wednesday 16 May 2018	Revd Helen Bent (RSCM) leading music/worship training for clergy	Old Deanery Exeter
Thursday 17 May 2018		
Monday 28 May 2018	<b>Bank holiday Monday - A Musical Pilgrimage Walk somewhere in Devon</b>	
Sunday - early July	Service of Vespers directed by Philip Arkwright	Buckfast Abbey
October	Forum on 'Music in Worship' with speakers representing different streams and traditions, to open up greater understanding and appreciation between them. In association with Praxis SW.	
<b>Saturday 3 November 2018</b>	<b>Annual Choral Festival</b>	<b>Exeter Cathedral</b>

## Introductory offer for new and returning members

**25% off a one-year RSCM Affiliate or Individual Membership when you attend an RSCM course or event**



*(for new/returning members in the UK and Ireland only)*

[Click for details](#)