

# Diocese of Galloway - Music Core Group

## May 2006 Newsletter

We have succeeded in contacting (by telephone or otherwise) most of you! Our mailing list is now updated - and if you think you are receiving this and shouldn't be, or there is a mistake in your address, please let us know as soon as possible.

The telephone calls and our last survey provided some valuable feedback and we are trying to respond to this. Read on . . . .

## REFLECTION

The core group itself held a morning of reflection and a summary of our discussions is enclosed. We looked at the positive and negative outcomes of our work, and considered our strengths and weaknesses. These reflections will form the basis of developments in our work and activities in the immediate future and we would welcome any comments from you.

## FUTURE EVENTS

Several musicians have commented that they find it difficult to attend workshops on Saturdays - and so as an experiment we have an event planned for a weekday evening.

We also received requests for workshops led by 'well known names' and so we are pleased that Mgr Gerry Fitzpatrick has accepted an invitation from us. We will be welcoming him to Smithstone House on Wednesday 14 June for an event running from 7 - 9.15 pm . . . .

The topic is 'Celtic Music and Community Prayer'. Publicity materials are enclosed - please advertise the event as widely as possible within your parish.

If you would like to bring an instrument to join in leading the music please will you let us know.

Our annual Galloway Music Festival Mass will be held on Sunday 20 August at 2.30 pm, also at Smithstone House (our seventh open air Mass) and more information will be provided in our next newsletter.

## OTHER EVENTS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

The RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) organise courses and workshops throughout the year across the UK. For more information, visit [www.rscm.com](http://www.rscm.com). They are now sending out a Scottish newsletter to their members, with information about what's going on in Scotland.

There will be a sight singing day for adults on Saturday 20 May at Dunblane Cathedral. The Dunblane singing break (for adults, directed by Gordon Appleton) is from 17 - 20 July. A Scottish Triennial Festival is being held on 4 November at St Michael's Church, Linlithgow, and this will be directed by Gordon Stewart (organist of Huddersfield Town Hall, conductor, recitalist and broadcaster). For more information about these events contact Kathleen on 01620 893245 or [Kathleen@rscmscotland.org](mailto:Kathleen@rscmscotland.org).

The Society of St Gregory summer school, 'Being the Church without Walls', is being held at Worth Abbey (itself the subject of a recent TV series) from 31 July - 4 August. The week includes a full programme of talks, workshops, seminars and liturgical celebrations as well as opportunities for rest, recollection and socialising. More information is available from Gill Ness-Collins on (01903) 812480, or visit [www.ssg.org.uk](http://www.ssg.org.uk).

The Society of St Gregory are also organising a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 21 - 29 October 2006, led by Fr Allen Morris (Secretary of the Department of Christian Life & Worship of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales). The Music Director is Martin Foster (Assistant Secretary of the Department of Christian Life & Worship). Bookings are through Special Pilgrimages, telephone 0800 371972.

'Let the World in Concert Sing' is being held at Iona Abbey and the MacLeod Centre from 12 - 18 August. This looks at music

and materials for worship and will be led by John Bell and Graham Maule. Book through WGRG on 0141 332 6343.

Worship Experience 2006 (a Kingsway Trust Project) - Mission: Worship is being held from Friday 3 - Sunday 5 November in Eastbourne. The conference seeks to equip the mind, challenge the heart and pass on practical skills.

## **ARE PIPE ORGANS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES?**

New EU directives due to come into force on 1 July will effectively mean the end of metal pipemaking in the European Union. The legislation is intended to address the problem of the use of lead in circuitboards in computers, mobile phones etc and the resultant accumulation of lead in landfill sites; but pipe organ metal, which uses a lead alloy, is also included. Visit [www.pipes4organs.org](http://www.pipes4organs.org) for more information.

The web site asks you to

- sign a petition
- contact your MP and MEP
- tell everyone you know about the site!

Do you want to improve your organ playing? The RSCM (contact details in section above) offer a range of residential courses from 'beginner' to 'advanced' levels to help you develop your skills - unfortunately they are mainly in Salisbury or London but you could combine one of these with your summer holiday!

## **WEB SITES**

For those of you who like Ian White's music, his web site

contains the music to many of his songs in a format (mostly pdf) that can be downloaded and printed! The site is [www.littlemistymusic.com](http://www.littlemistymusic.com).

[www.kingswaysongs.com](http://www.kingswaysongs.com) is a new way to buy sheet music, at the introductory price of £1.49 per song. Apparently it's possible to search this web site by theme, key, tempo or word/phrase. There are currently over 650 songs available (and audio sound samples - so you can listen before you buy the music), and the site is growing.

## **YOUR FAVOURITE HYMNS**

[www.ccli.co.uk/worshipresources/top25.cfm](http://www.ccli.co.uk/worshipresources/top25.cfm) lists the top 25 songs reported by churches in their copyright licence returns between 1 April and 30 September 2005. The ones

most likely to be sung by Catholic congregations include 'Be still for the presence of the Lord' (number 2), 'Shine Jesus shine' (number 9) and 'The servant king' (number 11). There is a separate listing for hymns used in schools - these include 'I danced in the morning' (number 3), 'Colours of day' (number 4), 'The butterfly song' (number 8) and 'Peace, perfect peace' (number 9).

Songs of Praise, on Sunday 30 April, comprised the nations' top ten favourite hymns as voted by Songs of Praise viewers (and unlike the ccli listings above, included hymns no longer in copyright). In reverse order, they are

- 10 Shine, Jesus shine
- 9 In Christ alone
- 8 Guide me, O thou great Redeemer
- 7 Make me a channel of your peace
- 6 Be still, for the presence of the Lord
- 5 Love divine, all loves excelling
- 4 Be thou my vision
- 3 The day thou gavest
- 2 Dear Lord and Father of mankind
- 1 How great thou art

'In Christ alone' is a very recent hymn (written in 2001). The words are by Stuart Townend and the music by Keith Getty. It would work well accompanied either traditionally on an organ or piano or by a music group. It has four verses, but is quite difficult to sing as it covers quite a large vocal range.

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*Visit our website at [www.gallowaymusic.net](http://www.gallowaymusic.net)*

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