

February 2008

Dear RSCM Member/Affiliate,

Happy new year from all on the RSCM Manchester Area Committee! Please find enclosed details of our up-coming events for 2008.

### **Manchester Area Festival 2008 - Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

The details of this have been finalised and are ready for distribution. Enclosed with this newsletter is a booking form to register your / your choir's interest in participating in the festival. We anticipate that the Festival Book will be ready for collection/distribution by w/c 11<sup>th</sup> February. Copies can be posted out to you, or you can collect them from St Ann's Church, Manchester, or at any of the regional rehearsals by arrangement.

Please note the deadline for registering your interest and requesting copies of the Festival Book is **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2008**. Ensure that you don't miss out and get your forms in early! Also, please note that as in previous years, the pre-service rehearsal on the day is compulsory for those who wish to sing in the service. The preliminary regional rehearsals are voluntary, but we do suggest that attendees attempt to make at least one.

This year we welcome Mr Tim Noon, Director of Music at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral, as our Festival Director, and we also welcome Ven. Andrew Ballard, Archdeacon of Manchester, to present the awards. The recently appointed (to be inducted in early February) Rector of St Ann's, Revd Nigel Ashworth, will lead the service for us, and, as always, don't forget to invite non-singing family and friends to the service itself.

### **Chorister Awards**

As in the previous year, we intend to celebrate this year's successes as part of the Festival Service. Any candidates who wish to enter for the awards should do so before **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March** in order to ensure inclusion, if successful, in the presentations at the Festival. Candidates should also ensure they are following the new syllabus, available online or from the Secretary, and should submit an application form as soon as they are ready so arrangements can be made. If you have any queries, don't hesitate to contact us by telephone - 0161 2262756 - or by e-mail: [awards@rscmmanchester.co.uk](mailto:awards@rscmmanchester.co.uk)

### **Area AGM**

This year the AGM will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008, from 7pm at St Ann's Church, Manchester, and in addition to the main business meeting, we will hold a short concert of music sung by choristers from around the Area – a change to the usual format.

With best wishes,

