

## Prescot Festival Celebrates Annual Music Sunday

A Merseyside arts festival will hold three special events as participants in the Royal School of Church Music's annual Music Sunday.

Prescot Festival will be marking the occasion with an organ recital, choral Evensong and Last Night of the Proms-style concert.

Timothy Noon, Director of Music at Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, will perform a programme of sacred and secular organ works. This will be followed by choral Evensong which sees the world premier performance of The Prescot Setting (Howard in D) of the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis. This work has been written especially for Music Sunday by Festival Director, Dr Robert Howard.

To coincide with the conclusion of the Prescot Festival, Liverpool Male Voice Choir, in their 100<sup>th</sup> year, will lead a Proms-style concert to include traditional patriotic songs including Jerusalem, Rule Britannia, & Land of Hope & Glory.

Among other events in the 10-day Prescot Festival will be an opening night barn dance, a come-&-sing performance of Haydn's *Creation* (excerpts), new music concert with world premier of Journey, also by Robert Howard, and a concert by L'Orchestra Dell'Arte. Modern chamber music, songs from the shows, contemporary acoustic music and a brass band will all be on this year's packed programme.

The Prescot Festival of Music & the Arts was founded by composer, musician and teacher Dr Robert Howard in 2005 as a way to celebrate Prescot's rich historical and cultural heritage.

Lindsay Gray, Director of the RSCM, says: "Music Sunday is a celebration of all music in Christian worship, whether it is hymns, worship songs, instrumental or choral singing. It's also a celebration of the music-makers, both amateur and professional, who contribute so much to the life of their church. I want to thank Prescot Festival for joining Music Sunday 2011 and I wish them the very best."

The Seventh Annual Prescot Festival of Music and the Arts takes place from Friday 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June. Full details are available on the official website, [www.prescotfestival.co.uk](http://www.prescotfestival.co.uk).


**ENDS**

### Notes for Editors

**Contact information for media enquiries:** Dr Robert Howard, [prescotfestival@gmail.com](mailto:prescotfestival@gmail.com)

### Full schedule as below

<b>Fri 17 June</b>	7.30pm	St Paul's Church, Bryer Road, Prescot. L35 5DW	<b>Opening Night: Festival Barn Dance with Live Band &amp; Hot Pot Supper £6</b>
<b>Sat 18 June</b>	11.00am - 4.00pm	Brown's Field, South Avenue, Prescot. L34 1LZ	<b>Prescot Carnival FREE</b>

	7.00pm	Prescot Parish Church, Church Street, Prescot. L34 1LA	<b>Brass &amp; Voices:</b> Brass Favourites with Parr Band (at 75 years), plus Choral Highlights from Haydn's Creation with the Prescot Festival Chorus (Come & Sing). <b>FREE</b>
<b>Sun 19 June</b>	2.00 - 4.00pm	Prescot Museum, Church Street, Prescot L34 3LA	<b>Sunday Funday with the Blue Moon String Quartet</b> <b>FREE</b> Arts and crafts fun for all the family
	6.30pm	Prescot Parish Church, Church Street, Prescot. L34 1LA	<b>Notes from a New Era</b> New music with contemporary ensemble COMA Manchester <b>£2</b>
<b>Mon 20 June</b>	6.30pm	St Mary & St Paul's School, Bryer Road, Prescot. L35 5DN	<b>Schools Verse Speaking Festival</b> <b>FREE</b>
<b>Tue 21 June</b>	7.30pm	Prescot Parish Meeting Room, Church Street, Prescot. L34 1LA	<b>Our Day Out:</b> A special screening of the classic 1977 BBC comedy-drama, by Whiston-born playwright Willy Russell <b>£4</b>
<b>Wed 22 June</b>	7.30pm	The Old Mill, 8 Mill Street, Prescot. L34 6HA	<b>Acoustic Night &amp; Open Mic</b> <b>Free</b>
<b>Thu 23 June</b>	7.30pm	Our Lady & St Joseph's RC Church, Vicarage Place, Prescot. L34 1LA	<b>Sefton Schools' Music Service in Concert</b> led by Phil Shotton, featuring Sefton Schools' Brass & Saxophone Ensembles, and Flute & Clarinet Choirs. Plus musicians from Deyes High School, Maghull, conducted by Dr Robert Howard <b>£4</b>
<b>Fri 24 June</b>	7.30pm	Prescot Methodist Centre, Atherton Street, Prescot. L34 5QN	<b>Friday Night Is Music Night with Orchestra dell'Arte</b> conducted by Edward Peak, formerly of the RLPO and BBC. Guest soprano Laura Sheerin <b>£6</b>
<b>Sat 25 June</b>	11.30am	Prescot Methodist Centre, Atherton Street, Prescot. L34 5QN	<b>Bringing Local History Alive:</b> Talk by Prescotian & John Moores Univeristy historian Rosemary Tyler <b>FREE</b>
	7.30pm	Prescot Methodist Centre, Atherton Street, Prescot. L34 5QN	<b>Bentley Operatic Society in Concert:</b> Programme of light opera and musical favourites, including Gilbert & Sullivan and Lehar's <i>Merry Widow</i> <b>£4</b>
<b>Sun 26 June</b>	3.00pm	Prescot Parish Church, Church Street, Prescot. L34 1LA	 <b>Organ Recital:</b> Guest organist Timothy Noon, Director of Music, Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral <b>£4</b>
	6.00pm	Prescot Parish Church, Church Street, Prescot. L34 1LA	<b>Choral Evensong</b> featuring the choir & organist of Prescot Parish Church <b>FREE</b>
	7.30pm	Prescot Parish Church, Church Street, Prescot. L34 1LA	<b>Last Night of the Proms: Liverpool Male Voice Choir</b> (at 100 years) <b>FREE</b>

**Background information about the Festival:** Arts in Prescot, encompassing Prescot Festival, is a not-for-profit, volunteer-run community group organising & promoting arts & cultural events in Prescot & the surrounding area.

**Other useful contacts:** Laura Bonnett, 07762607618, [L.J.Bonnett@gmail.com](mailto:L.J.Bonnett@gmail.com)

**The Royal School of Church Music (RSCM)** is an educational charity that promotes the best use of music in worship, church life, and the wider community. The RSCM also publishes music and training resources, and organises courses, short workshops, and other activities. RSCM is an international network, with over 8,500 affiliates, members and friends in over 40 countries, supported by over 650 volunteers and a small team of staff based throughout the UK. More at [www.rscm.com](http://www.rscm.com).

**For further media enquiries about the RSCM contact:**

**Stuart Robinson:** RSCM Media Relations Organiser [srobinson@rscm.com](mailto:srobinson@rscm.com) 07831 827701

**Heather Bamber:** RSCM Marketing & Communications Administrator [hbamber@rscm.com](mailto:hbamber@rscm.com)  
01722 424847  
The Royal School of Church Music  
19 The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EB  
Tel: 01722 424848  
Fax: 01722 424849  
Registered charity no: 312828