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## FRIENDS OF ROCHESTER CHORAL SOCIETY

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7 May 2010

*Dear Friend*

This is just a friendly reminder that the next RCS concert will be on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in Rochester Cathedral. Concerts from here on will start at 7pm, to accommodate the vergers, who do so much to make our time together pleasant.

It's an all-Italian evening and we will be singing the Stabat Mater of Rossini. Although the theme is solemn, as you know Rossini has created lively and uplifting music, good to listen to and to sing. And the Rochester Sinfonietta will be playing the Italian Symphony, Mendelssohn's 4<sup>th</sup>, another favourite. Please note the date in your diary.

There is one important point about tickets. As Rosemary, our Secretary, will be away during our visit to Rochester New Hampshire, you can order from Margaret Holtby at 62 Wilson Avenue, Rochester ME1 2RL; telephone: 01 634 844 122; or e-mail [margaretholtby@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:margaretholtby@blueyonder.co.uk). The enclosed flyers are advance drafts but I hope you will still show them around.

Our USA visit (28<sup>th</sup> May till 6<sup>th</sup> June) is to sing with the Granite State Choral Society, which visited us in 2003. We are hoping to avoid problems due to volcanic ash, which recently delayed the return from the USA of the Cathedral Special Choir.

Our Autumn Concert will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> November, this time in the St George's Centre, in Chatham Maritime, also at 7pm. The programme is Stanford's *The Bluebird*; Schumann's *Zigeunerleben*; *The Carnival of the Animals* (for two pianos) by Saint Saëns and that wonderful celebration of pleasure *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff. If you haven't been to the St George's Centre yet, you will have a pleasant surprise in store. Formerly the Dockyard church, it is beautifully appointed and has a fine acoustic. There is also plenty of free parking. Please note the date and come if you possibly can. If you need more information, I'll be happy to oblige.

People who came to our Spring concert have said how they especially enjoyed Jonathan Dove's *The Passing of the Years* and Rutter's *Gloria*. Some of the Friends missed a real treat!

The Concert Programme and Booking form for 2010-2011 should be available shortly.

Meanwhile, please accept the best wishes of the choir, with thanks for your support

Yours sincerely

*Malcolm Moulton*