

What's up, Alumni!

Second Edition • October 2008



Shallaway AGM and Call for Alumni Contribution

On Thursday, November 6th, Shallaway will be holding its Annual General Meeting and Second Annual Silent Auction! The AGM will commence at 6:30 pm at École des Grands-Vents with a Meet & Greet to follow at 7:00 pm. Our event last year was a great success and we hope to see many of you on the 6th.

This year the Alumni Association will be donating a special basket to the silent auction. We want to show off all of the great things our alumni have done, while at the same time making a contribution to Shallaway's silent auction. Whether it's a CD, jewelery or math tutoring, we want donations from alumni that have been created by alumni. If you have a product you would like to donate please contact alumni@shallaway.ca ASAP. A very special thank-you to the Alumni who have already made a contribution, the basket is looking great!

Shallaway Series Tickets

For the first time, Shallaway is offering special Series Tickets for three of the four concerts this season! You can save money by purchasing Series Tickets which enable one person admission to the following concerts:

Series ticket prices are as follows:

General Public - \$60.00

Seniors/Students - \$40.00

A limited number of special alumni priced Series Tickets are available for a special reduced price - \$50.00

Alumni who are students (including University) may take advantage of the reduced student price.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Shallaway office at 738-6792 or info@shallaway.ca.

Tickets are moving especially fast for this year's Christmas Concert as **Gordon Pinsent** will be returning as our reader. Please mark the dates in your calendar now!!

Fall Concert

November 2, 2008

Cochrane Street United Church

7:30 p.m.

Christmas Concert

(one of these two dates)

December 6 & 7, 2008

Cochrane Street United Church

7:30 p.m.

Concert of the Place

February 20, 2009

Cochrane Street United Church

7:00 p.m.

Christmas Concert

At the Rim of the Carol-Singing Sea



In keeping with our SHALLAWAY Christmas tradition, male alumni are invited again this year for the performance of *Suo Gan* (A Welsh Lullaby) and female alumni are invited to take part in *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* in the Christmas Concerts. This year's concerts will take place on December 6th and 7th. The reading of "A Child's Christmas in Wales" will once again be performed by renowned actor Gordon Pinsent. The audience is surely in for a wonderful treat!

If you are planning to sing, please reply before December 1st to info@shallaway.ca or by calling the office at **738-6792**. Music and listening CDs will be provided for all participants.

In addition to the performances, the commitment will include some rehearsals and dress rehearsals.

Please note the rehearsal Schedule for Alumni planning to sing:



November 24th	6:45-7:30 (men only)	Rehearsal at Waterford Room C
December 1st	6:45-7:30 (men only)	Rehearsal at Cochrane Street
December 5th	5:45-6:45 (all alumni)	Dress Rehearsal at Cochrane Street
December 6th	12:00-1:00 (all alumni)	Dress Rehearsal at Cochrane Street

Fish Pin Ceremony



Alumni are asked to stay following the dress rehearsal from 12:45 pm until 1:00 pm on Saturday, December 6th, to be a part of the fish pin presentation ceremony to Shallaway's new choristers.



Alumni Updates

We are interested in hearing from you. Have you, or another Alumna you know, received a special award, gotten married, had a baby, or done anything your fellow Alumni would like to know about? We would love to hear about what you are up to! Please contact Nicole Dawe at alumni@shallaway.ca or be in touch with your year-representative with updates.

We would also like to use the newsletter as a means for alumni to advertise to other alumni. Do you have an upcoming performance or a business that you think others might want to know about? Again, contact Nicole Dawe or your year-representative with information.

Congratulations ...



Laura Soucy on her wedding October 25th, 2008
Melissa (Melvin) Babel on her wedding August 2nd, 2008
Alana (Dean) MacPhee on her wedding July 25th, 2008
Carolynn Spurvey on her wedding June 28th, 2008
Mike Fisher on his wedding December 31st, 2007
Sarah (Budgell) Nolan on her wedding October 6th, 2007

Welcome to the World ...



Rachel Maria Davis, born May 11th, 2008, to alumna Michelle (Smyth) Davis
Sarah Jane Morris, born on September 30th, 2008. to alumna Christine Lilly
Mila Rebecca Pike, born on June 10th, 2008 ,to alumna Krysta Rudofsky
Luke Edward Rudofsky, born July 19th, 2008, to alumna Rebecca (Furey) Rudofsky
Meredith Perpetua Marrie, born June 20th, 2008, to alumnus Tim Marrie

Shallaway/NSYC Alumni Association - Toronto Branch

Are you currently living in the Toronto area? Would you like to get together and socialize with your former choir friends? Adrienne Curran (Graduate 2002) is currently in the process of planning a get-together for our Toronto Alumni. If you are in the Toronto area and interested in being a part of the Toronto branch or participating in an Alumni gathering, please get in touch with Adrienne at acurran30@hotmail.com.

Stay up to date with the Shallaway Newsletter

Would you like to know more about what is happening with Shallaway? If you are interested in keeping closer ties to the organization, you can do so by adding yourself to the newsletter email list. This newsletter is distributed bi-weekly to all Shallaway families and as alumni, you can receive the newsletter and stay current with the choir.

Sobey's and Belbin's Dollars are Back!

Do you miss those wonderful days of grocery coupons at your house? Would you like to get a tax receipt for groceries you would be buying anyways?

As a fundraising initiative the alumni are beginning to sell Sobey's and Belbin's dollars. If you would be interested in this program please contact Nicole Dawe at nicoledawe@gmail.com.

Visit the Alumni on the Web

The Shallaway web site is currently being re-developed and a big part of the changes are to incorporate the alumni. Check out www.shallaway.ca on January 1st to view the new and improved Shallaway web site, with its many alumni features. We hope to keep this up to date with current alumni information and to have a Members-Only section that we can all use to stay connected with each other and the association.

www.shallaway.ca/alumni

We also have an alumni Facebook group. If you are a member of Facebook, look for the Shallaway/NSYC Alumni in the group section of Facebook. If you aren't a member, why not consider signing up? It's a great way to stay in touch with all of our alumni friends!

Alumni Meeting Schedule

We would love to see you at any of the alumni meetings. Meetings take place at the Shallaway Office (6 Logy Bay Road) at 5:00 pm and usually last for about one hour. Meetings are subject to change, so if you are planning on attending a meeting please contact Nicole at nicoledawe@gmail.com to confirm that the meeting is going ahead.

Our meeting schedule is as follows:

November 9th

January 4th

March 1st

April 5th

May 20th

June 7th



Your Alumni Executive

President – Carolynn Spurvey

Vice-President – Michelle Davis

Treasurer and Administration – Nicole Dawe

Secretary – Kristen Williams

Communications – Jennifer Babstock

Education – Erika Lilly and Justin Mahon

Shallaway Board of Directors Representatives:

Carolynn Spurvey, Michelle Davis and Ray Gosine

Alumni Year Representatives

2008 – Emily Thompson and Meaghan Aylward

2007 – Julie Chaytor

2006 – Erin Eaton

2005 – Jeanette Bruce

2004 – Kristen Williams

2003 – Jaime Ryan and Gillian Langor

2002 – Adrienne Curran

2001 – Alanna Fitzpatrick

2000 – **Vacant*

1999 – Sarah Budgell

1998 – Catherine Tansley

1993-1997 – Carolynn Spurvey

**Please contact Nicole Dawe if you are interested in being a representative*

Where Are They Now?



Chris Ryan

Alumnus 1995, Choral Scholar 2002-03

Chris Ryan joined Shallaway the first year it started – back when it was the NSO Treble Choir – and enjoyed singing with the choir for several years. This is when his love of choral music began, which has continued unabated ever since. After graduating from high school, Chris entered the MUN School of Music in 1999 to pursue another musical passion – piano performance. During his years at music school, Chris immersed himself in a wide range of musical experiences: he sang with the Quintessential Vocal Ensemble and the MUN Chamber Choir, accompanied Cantus Vocum and the Philharmonic Choir, and played violin with the Newfoundland Symphony Orchestra, to name just a few.

Throughout high school and university, Susan Knight continued to be a dear and respected musical mentor to Chris. In 2001, with her encouragement, Chris returned to Shallaway as a Choral Scholar – an experience he found both challenging and rewarding. He graduated with honours from music school in 2003.

At this point in his life, Chris decided to follow a long-held desire to help others through the practice of medicine. He enrolled at MUN School of Medicine in 2004 and received his M.D. in 2008. In July, he started a residency in Psychiatry at the University of Western Ontario in London.

Although he has switched career paths, music will always be a source of joy and contentment to Chris. His first major purchase upon moving to London was – no surprise – a piano!



Rebecca Sussex

Alumna 1999

It's hard to believe it's now been almost ten years since I sang with the choir formerly known as NSYC. Leaving the choir was a very emotional event, particularly since the choir dropped me off in Halifax airport at the end of the Finland tour in 1999 with a beautiful impromptu "Irish Blessing"! That is a moment I am sure I will never forget.

After completing my BSc (Combined Honours) in Halifax I returned home to St. John's briefly before quickly hopping on another plane, this time to Melbourne, Australia. After a year of getting acquainted with little-known relatives (my Dad's side of the family), working and travelling with my sister, I decided to head back to school. Since I was missing music terribly I chose to combine my love of music with my budding love of research and psychology. I was happy to discover that there was a thriving lab for exactly that kind of research right here in Melbourne!

For the last few years I have been working on an MSc looking at the connection between music, language and the brain. The idea stems from studies that have shown that combining language with music in music therapy can help some patients with brain damage recover their ability to speak. In my project we are looking at the role of the temporal lobes in the production of language and music by asking whether these two types of production are processed in shared or different parts of the brain.

In the next few months I will be wrapping up my studies and hope to head back to the northern hemisphere for adventures currently unknown in mid-2009.



Jessica Whelan

Alumna 2003

It's hard to believe how much time has passed since I graduated from NSYC. It was almost six years ago that I reluctantly said goodbye to the NSYC family and moved on to new and exciting adventures in my life.

After I finished high school and completed two years at MUN where I did some pre-requisite courses for the education faculty, God began to steer my life in a direction that I could never have imagined. I left the Rock and moved to the little town of Sussex, New Brunswick, to attend Bethany Bible College. I began my journey there with a one-year intensive program called Extreme Discipleship (XD), which opened me up to a lot of different ministry experiences and really challenged me in every facet of my life. I did things I never imagined I would be doing – ministering in prisons, working with AIDS hospitals, conducting spontaneous worship services on busy street corners and in the middle of parks in New York and Washington, DC, giving my testimony to a large group of men in drug rehabilitation centers – and this was just the beginning of the many trips that God has taken me on over the past six years. After finishing my year of XD I decided to undertake a Bachelor of Religion degree with a major in Global Ministry and I began preparing for missionary work.

I have been blessed and privileged to be a part of several mission trips over the past few years; I have served in The Bahamas, Belize, Zimbabwe, and currently I am in Thailand on a six-month internship to complete my program. I am more than three months into my internship, and I love every minute of it. Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined six years ago that this is what my life would look like today. Learning some of the native language and being immersed in the culture are just a couple examples of the amazing opportunities I've had since arriving in Thailand. I am spending time working in a village teaching English (and amusingly enough, some French) to underprivileged children, I was able to get involved with some ministry in the Red-Light bar districts in Bangkok, and at the end of October I will travel down south to help with continuing relief work where the Tsunami hit Thailand in 2004.

My years as a chorister in NSYC provided me with some of the best memories of my life, and I'd like to believe that they helped shape me into the person I am today, eager for adventure and learning and above all else, equipped with a core sense of community and cultural awareness that I take with me wherever my travels may lead.