### PHOTO JOURNAL

# International Day of Peace 2015 Marlborough House Monday 21 September 2015

Members of the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra and
Members of the Commonwealth Children's Choir
Marked and Celebrated International Day of Peace 2015 by
Launching a major new initiative
"Commonwealth Community Heritage"
Convening the Constituency of the Commonwealth on a Path to Peace



Commonwealth Children's Choir performing the Commonwealth Anthem with members of the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra

www.commonwealth-youth-orchestra.org

**Deputy Secretary - General Gary Dunn gave the Welcome Remarks** 

Members of the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra Conducted by Maestro Paul Carroll



Maltese Soprano, Nicola Said



Mr Robbie Lyle, President, Friends of the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra & Choir, made some remarks on the importance of the "soft power" of music



Maestro Paul Carroll introduced the world-premiere of the Songs which he wrote and dedicated to HE The President of Malta following her attendance at the Commonwealth Gala Event at Marlborough House in March 2015



Maltese Soprano performed the world-premiere of Songs composed by Maestro Paulo Carroll for HE The President of Malta



Maestro Paul Carroll introduces "The Castle of Mey"



Professor David Rowland, Chairman of the Trustees of the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra and Choir launched "Commonwealth Community Heritage"



Deputy Secretary-General and Maestro Paul Carroll reflect on the importance of the "soft power" of music in the Commonwealth



### Professor David Rowland Speech for the Launch of "Commonwealth Community Heritage", Convening the Constituency of the Commonwealth on a Path to Peace

Good evening, Your Excellences, Your Highness, Lords, Ladies and honoured guests, I am Professor David Rowland Chairman of the Trustees of the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra and Choir, the Commonwealth Children's Orchestra and Choir, the Commonwealth Symphony Orchestra and the Commonwealth Music Partnership, Music for Development and Peace.

I would like to say a few words about a major new initiative which we are launching here tonight.

The mission of the Commonwealth Orchestras and Choirs is to use music as a means of international dialogue, knowing no boundaries.

We deliver this mission through a three-point plan: Engage - Educate - Empower

The Commonwealth Youth Orchestra and Choir has been given the unanimous and unique endorsement of all 53 Commonwealth Heads of Government at their meeting in Perth, Western Australia and this unanimous support was published in the Final Communique of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2011.

In 2012 we were honoured by Her Majesty The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, who became Diamond Jubilee Patron of the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra & Choir to mark Her Majesty's 60 years as Head of the Commonwealth.

As part of its contribution to the legacy of The Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Commonwealth Orchestras and Choirs established the Commonwealth Music Partnership – Music for Peace and Development. This unique partnership is linking up all the music organisations of all music genres, in the 53 countries of the Commonwealth, to create fully-funded opportunities for unique collaboration using music as a means of international dialogue, knowing no boundaries. We already have thousands of Commonwealth Music Partners and by 2020 we aim to have 1 million.

The two words which are fundamental to all that we do is "engage" and "diversity" – both of which we deploy at grass-roots level.

These two powerful words "engage" and "diversity", are our governing benchmark.

The 21st century Commonwealth, is an organic international organisation, 66 years old this year, where 53 independent countries across 6 regions, come together voluntarily to form an unique international partnership and where, unlike any other international group, each country is on an equal footing - regardless of the size of the national population, the national wealth or the physical size of its land.

The Commonwealth provides an unique opportunity for international, inter--organisation support and collaboration, and an unique international network of 53 countries.

The Commonwealth gives us an opportunity to deliver unique opportunities of engagement and to demonstrate mutual respect for diversity.

In the words of the late President Nelson Mandela: "The Commonwealth makes the world safe for diversity".

We are in the business of delivering new opportunities through engagement and of celebrating diversity. For many years we have been totally committed to demonstrating the powerful results of this diverse engagement and to giving positive global visibility to the achievements and future opportunities of the 21st century Commonwealth.

So today, I am delighted to announce our new initiative: "Commonwealth Community Heritage, Convening the Constituency of the Commonwealth on a Path to Peace".

The "Constituency of the Commonwealth" is its 2.2 billion citizens, half of whom are under 25, in 53 countries.

The aim of Commonwealth Community Heritage is to give an ever-expanding international visibility to, and focus on, what is being achieved by Commonwealth citizens in each Commonwealth country both generally and specifically, in the 4 areas of:

- 1. Politics Diplomacy
- 2. Business Enterprise
- 3. Education Academia
- 4. Music Creative Arts and Media

This national and international visibility and focus will be delivered through the Commonwealth Community Heritage live-streamed events and workshops, virtual Pan-Commonwealth engagement and website display.

Commonwealth Community Heritage will:

- give visibility to what already exists in each country
- engage with what already exists in each country
- establish links between nationals in each country and its diaspora

The Commonwealth Community Heritage workshops will be starting this October 2015, and there will be a Commonwealth Community Heritage Gala, live-streamed event, in Commonwealth Week, March 2016.

The first Commonwealth Community Heritage Event will be held in exactly one year's time, on Wednesday 21 September 2016 - International Day of Peace.

A new website is being specifically created for Commonwealth Community Heritage and is currently under construction.

The website will have cutting-edge connectivity, platforms for live-streaming and maximum display for engagement.

In summary, Commonwealth Community Heritage will generate:

- A virtual Commonwealth space which is valuable for organisations to have visibility and to engage in
- A model which produces trust and understanding and social cohesion
- A Commonwealth space which welcomes trade, investment and social enterprise creating value for nationals both at home and abroad
- 53 Commonwealth National Focus Events each year, all of which are livestreamed
- Opportunities to shine a light on organisations in the Commonwealth who care and invest in their community through "ethical, sustainable enterprise"
- Opportunities to focus on professional aspirational leaders and enterprise, giving visibility to the featured country's inward and outward opportunities for nationals in the country and its diaspora, its inter-Commonwealth connections and its place within the Commonwealth

As I said at the outset, the mission of the Commonwealth Orchestra and Choirs is to use music as a means of international dialogue, knowing no boundaries.

Music and engagement underpins all that we do and this new initiative is going to take this engagement to a completely new level, to achieve trans-national and trans-racial understanding and to build respect for diversity on a path to peace.

I do hope that we can inspire you all here tonight to engage with us in this ground-breaking, peace-building initiative which we are so pleased to be launching as part of our marking and celebrating International Day of Peace 2015.

It just remains for me to thank most sincerely Deputy Secretary-General Mr Gary Dunn for so kindly making the Welcome Remarks and also Mr Robbie Lyle, President of the Friends of the Commonwealth Orchestras and Choirs, for having shared his reflections on the importance of the "soft power" of music and the trans-national, trans-racial opportunities it presents across the Commonwealth, by using music to convene the constituency of the Commonwealth on a path to peace.

Thank you.

### Commonwealth Community Heritage Workshops 2015 – 2016

The order of the Commonwealth countries in focus in the respective Commonwealth Community Heritage Workshops is determined by the itinerary of the Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014 Queen's Baton Relay which started in India (host of the 2010 Commonwealth Games) on 11 October 2013. The Queen's Baton travelled through all the Commonwealth Regions, from Asia, Pacifica, Africa, Caribbean, Americas to Europe, and finishing nine months later in the United Kingdom, on 23 July 2014, at the Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014.

From October 2013, the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra & Choir followed the Queen's Baton Relay and engaged with its Commonwealth Music Partners in each of the 53 Commonwealth countries and its tour culminated in a massive Commonwealth Gala Concert in the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow on 23 June 2014, which was exactly one month before the Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014.

Starting in October 2015, the Commonwealth Community Heritage Workshops and Events, will be following the same trans-Commonwealth itinerary every year going forward. In the first year there will be 15 Commonwealth Community Heritage Workshops and Events, in the second year there will be 30 Commonwealth Community Heritage Workshops and Events and by the third year and all future years, there will be 53 Commonwealth Community Heritage Workshops and Events, one for each Commonwealth country.

#### 2015 -2016 Dates

October	7	CCH 1	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives
October	21	CCH 2	Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam
November	4	ССН 3	Australia, Papua New Guinea
November	18	CCH 4	Solomon Islands, Nauru, Tuvalu, Samoa, Kiribati
December	2	CCH 5	New Zealand, Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu
January	20	CCH 6	Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon
February	3	CCH 7	Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya
February	24	CCH 8	Tanzania, Seychelles, Mauritius, Mozambique
March	9	CCH 9	Zambia, Malawi, Botswana, Namibia
March	23	CCH 10	South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland
May	25	CCH 11	Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago, Grenada, Barbados
June	8	CCH 12	St Vincent & The Grenadines, St Lucia, Dominica
June	15	CCH 13	St Kitts & Nevis, Jamaica, Antigua & Barbuda
June	22	CCH 14	The Bahamas, Belize, Canada
July	6	CCH 15	Cyprus, Malta, United Kingdom

### COMMONWEALTH YOUTH ORCHESTRA & CHOIR

# DIAMOND JUBILEE PATRON 2012 Her Majesty The Queen Head of the Commonwealth

### MUSIC PATRON Maestro Zubin Mehta

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                HE Mr Greg Quinn – (past) British High Commissioner to Guyana
           HE Mr David Fitton CMG - British High Commissioner to Jamaica & Bahamas
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                                  The Kingdom of Swaziland
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### COMMONWEALTH YOUTH ORCHESTRA & CHOIR

DIRECTOR-GENERAL Sally Shebe

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & COMPOSER-IN-RESIDENCE
Maestro Paul Carroll

Email:commonwealth.cantata@btconnect.com

Telephone: + 44 20 7222 5777

www.commonwealth-youth-orchestra.org

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