

St Mary the Virgin, Kidlington
GALA CONCERT

celebrating the 40th anniversary of the organ
Sunday 16th July, 2017

David Hewett (St Mary's, Kidlington)

Fantasia in G (BWV 572)

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Paul Hale (Organist Emeritus, Southwell Minster)

Chorale prelude "Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele" (BWV 654)

J.S. Bach

Theme and variations

Hendrik Andriessen (1892-1981)

Richard Vendome (Oxford)

Concerto in G, first movement (BWV 592)

J.S. Bach after Johann Ernst

Veni creator spiritus: En taille - Récit - Dialogue

Nicolas de Grigny (1672-1703)

Andante in G minor ("Quatuor")

A-P-F Boëly (1785-1858)

George Inscoc (Organ Scholar, Temple Church, London)

Toccata in E (BWV 566)

J.S. Bach

Éclats (composed for 40th anniversary of Kidlington Organ)

Richard Vendome (b.1949)

The construction of the St Mary's organ began in 1974, and it was dedicated by the Bishop of Dorchester on 4th December 1976, the date of the death of Benjamin Britten.

The programme will include insights from members of the original team into the process of conceiving, designing and building this magnificent instrument.

Free entry with a retiring collection for the organ fund.

David Hewett is the Director of Music at St Mary's Kidlington. Previously organ scholar at Romsey Abbey and St Mary's Warwick, he studied the organ first with Jeffery Williams and then with Andrew Fletcher. He moved to Kidlington in 2006 to study for a DPhil in mathematics at Oxford University, and is now a lecturer at University College London. He is passionate about church music and its role in worship, and in September 2017 will be launching St Mary's Choristers, a new children's choir based at St Mary's church.

Paul Hale made his first serious foray into the world of organ building here at Kidlington, where he helped Richard Vendome realise his vision for the removal of the organ to the west end and the creation of something altogether more splendid. Paul fitted this in between his time as organ scholar of New College and his first post as Assistant Director of Music at Tonbridge School, where over seven years his passion for organ building and design found further outlets.

After seven years at Rochester Cathedral, Paul moved in 1989 to become cathedral organist to Southwell Minster, in Nottinghamshire, where he remained until retiring in the summer of 2016. At Southwell he recruited and trained the cathedral choir for its seven choral services a week, along with its many broadcasts, recordings and tours. He is now works full time as an organ consultant and recitalist.

Over the years he has given recitals in most of the UK's leading venues and in Europe and the USA. Paul has been editor of "Organists' Review", a trustee of such organisations as the Percy Whitlock Trust, has chaired the RSCM in Nottinghamshire, writes and lectures about the organ, is musical director of Nottingham Bach Choir and a diploma examiner for the Royal College of Organists. His organ consultancies range from cathedrals to universities, schools and parish churches, all over England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In recent years his career as a church musician has been recognised by the awarding of honorary fellowships by the Royal School of Church Music and the Guild of Church Musicians. In June this year the Archbishop of Canterbury presented him at Lambeth Palace with the Thomas Cranmer Award for his "outstanding work at Southwell and beyond". Paul is delighted to be back at Kidlington - where it all began - forty years on.

Richard Vendome was born in Oxford and attended Southfield School (now Oxford Spires Academy), going on to study at the Royal School of Church Music, Addington Palace, and the Royal College of Music. He became a Fellow of the Royal College of Organists before winning an organ scholarship at the Queen's College, Oxford, where he was tutored by James Dalton.

Whilst at the RCM Richard was assistant organist to Denys Darlow at St Barnabas', Kensington, and then organist at St Giles' Church, Oxford, where he built up a large choir of men and boys, before moving to St Mary's, Kidlington, and to Exeter College as Organist in 1973. His postgraduate research into renaissance choral and keyboard music gave rise to his later work in the field of computerised music printing, in which he was mentored by Dr Jim Williamson.

Having already worked on several organ restoration projects, Richard saw the reordering of St Mary's in the mid 70s as an opportunity to move the organ to the west end of the nave, where it would be best placed to lead congregational worship, and he enlisted the help of Paul Hale and a team from organ builders Grant, Degens and Bradbeer to build a new instrument, incorporating material from the old one.

On leaving Kidlington in 1984 Richard took up a research fellowship at Oxford University Faculty of Music and in 1990 was awarded the British Computer Society Medal for Computing in the Humanities. He has taught techniques of composition for Queen's and music history for St Hilda's Colleges, and founded the Oxford Girls' Choir from former members of St Mary's junior choir in 1984; this has developed into Oxford Youth Choirs, six groups with 170 members. In 2005 he established the adult ensemble Vivaldi's Women to make programmes for BBC television and radio. Around ten per cent of the 700 or so children he has trained over the years have become professional musicians. He has a large practice as a singing teacher and has worked as an organ consultant and recitalist both at home and abroad.

George Incoe is organ scholar at the Temple Church and organ scholar-elect of Norwich Cathedral. A founder member of Oxford Boys' Choir, he became a chorister at Canterbury Cathedral, attending St Edmund's School, and began his organ studies with Dr David Flood in 2008. George has just graduated with honours from the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied with Susan Landale and won all the major organ prizes for performance and academic achievement. In April 2015 he was organist and accompanist for the Canterbury Cathedral choir tour of the United States. He has performed as a soloist at most major UK venues, including the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Festival Hall and St John's Smith Square, as well as the Queen's College and Exeter College, Oxford. When not at the organ, he enjoys jazz piano, football, tennis and golf.