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Festival Events

Sunday 8 July	Page 5
Crispian Steele-Perkins, trumpet; Anne Page, organ <i>Oundle School Chapel 5.00pm</i>	
Segovia Guitar Trio <i>Wadenhoe Church 7.30pm</i>	
Twilight Recital* Bingham String Quartet <i>Yarrow Art Gallery 9.55pm</i>	
Monday 9 July	Page 7
Choir of St John's College, Cambridge <i>Oundle School Chapel 7.30pm</i>	
Twilight Recital* Caryl Thomas, harp <i>Yarrow Art Gallery 9.55pm</i>	
Tuesday 10 July	Page 9
Johannes Geffert, organ <i>Peterborough Cathedral 1.00pm</i>	
Corelli Strings with Antony Hopkins and James Parsons <i>Oundle School Chapel 7.30pm</i>	
Twilight Recital* David Mattinson, bass-baritone <i>Yarrow Art Gallery 9.55pm</i>	
Wednesday 11 July	Page 11
David Sanger, Organ Recital <i>King's College Chapel, Cambridge 7.30pm</i>	
Thursday 12 July	Page 13
Gordon Stewart, organ <i>Oundle School Chapel 7.30pm</i>	
Twilight Recital* David Mattinson, bass-baritone <i>Yarrow Art Gallery 9.55pm</i>	
Friday 13th July	Page 15
Jacques van Oortmerssen, organ <i>Trinity College Chapel, Cambridge 1.00pm</i>	
Leicester Festival Ensemble <i>Fotheringhay Church 7.30pm</i>	
Saturday 14 July	Page 17
Jane Watts, organ <i>Oundle School Chapel 11.30am</i>	
National Youth Jazz Orchestra <i>Stahl Theatre, Oundle 7.00pm</i>	
Street Fair, Firework Display and Barbecue	
Sunday 15 July	Page 21
Festival Eucharist <i>Oundle Parish Church 10.00am</i>	
Students' Platform Concert <i>Oundle School Chapel 2.30pm</i>	

* For details of Twilight Recitals, please refer to Pages 22 and 23

Picture opposite: Members of the Executive Committee: Joanna Watkin, Martin Freke, James Parsons, Trisha Ryan and Jeremy Sampson.

Souvenir Programme

Editor: Joanna Watkin

Programme notes: Martin Freke; the artists; Joanna Watkin

Design and origination: S&M Design, Peterborough

Cover Photograph: St Mary and All Saint's Church, Fotheringhay, by Peter Cooper



Music – and more – has been the aim in making this Festival a sparkling and varied celebration of the arts.

Music: the centenary of César Franck, who died in 1890, prompts a French element. Franck was the most outstanding organist and teacher of his day and presided for many years at the console of Ste Clotilde, Paris.

David Sanger's recital at King's presents organ music by Franck and pieces, some of them amusing, by his contemporaries and successors. Gordon Stewart plays Franck's Pastorale; Jane Watts, his Prélude, Fugue and Variation. Developing this theme, the Twilight recitals offer French music on that most romantic of instruments, the harp, as well as chansons by Fauré and Ravel's quartet.

There is more music by Ravel played by the Leicester Festival Ensemble at Fotheringhay and, one of the week's highlights, the celebrated broadcaster and conductor Antony Hopkins directs Corelli Strings in a popular programme which includes Poulenc's Organ Concerto.

The Festival Summer School is now regarded as a key building block in any aspiring young organist's development. This year forty-one young people, including students from USA, Sweden, Denmark and South Africa, will be playing the Frobenius night and day, practising and learning from an international faculty of great teachers and recitalists, making a worthy contribution to 'National Learn the Organ Year'.

The teachers complement classes with public recitals. Hear Johannes Geffert from Bonn at Peterborough Cathedral and Jacques van Oortmerssen from Holland play Bach at Trinity, Cambridge.

This year the Festival has acquired the use of a fine new facility: a 5-stop bureau organ. Funds raised from the sale of the Harrison organ and a generous donation from the Spencer Wills Trust have assisted Oundle School in the purchase of the new instrument, aptly named after Anthony Lucas (O.O.) whose handsome generosity in the past twice enabled the rebuilding of the old Harrison. The bureau organ can be seen in the Arthur Marshall Room at the Great Hall.

Music – and lots more! The splendid efforts of the Oundle, Thrapston and District Round Table have energised the Traditional Community Day. There will be charity stalls, a craft fair, classic cars, steam engines and a barbecue. The Oundle Artists Group and the Horticultural Society will be adding their contributions.

The preparation of this year's Festival has been complex but enjoyable. I warmly thank my colleagues for their tireless dedication and encouragement and also the many others who have given their time and talents. If there are people who are interested in assisting with future Festivals, I urge them to introduce themselves to a Steward and join the fun.

Sponsorship and audiences are the lifeblood of the Festival. For the first time O.I.O.F.

has reached its sponsorship target; two B.S.I.S Awards from the Government have been a key factor. I express great gratitude to the companies, trusts and individual Friends who have made this festival possible. On behalf of the Executive Committee I wish our sponsors, audiences and students every enjoyment.

James Parsons

James Parsons

Although a Festival may only last one week each year, the other fifty-one are devoted to its organisation. I am proud to have been closely involved in the planning of the sixth Oundle International Organ Festival. Regrettably I shall not be here to see the fulfilment of this work. I am spending the summer months examining in the Far East. I fly out knowing that all students will have an enormously rewarding experience at the Summer School and that the Festival events will, as always, provide a musical banquet for all to enjoy.

My sincere gratitude to James Parsons for assuming an ever harder workload and to Dr Geoffrey Webber and Simon Lawford for covering my contribution to the week.

Martin Freke

Martin Freke