

FESTIVAL MATINS

10.30am St Mary and All Saints Church, Fotheringhay

Preacher The Revd Dr James Saunders, Priest-in-Charge of Teigh with Whissendine & Market Overton, Leicestershire

Officiant The Revd Brian Rogers, Vicar of Fotheringhay

Oundle International Festival Chorus

Students of Oundle for Organists summer schools 2009

Instrumental Ensemble, leader Jeremy Sampson

directed by

James Lloyd Thomas and James Parsons



Ever since 1986 an act of worship at the conclusion of the Festival has been a focal feature of our proceedings. In 2009, twenty-five years on, we are in celebratory mode. Welcome to the heartland of the English muse, with uplifting music, mostly optimistic and deeply upholstered in tone. Like OIF, most of the featured composers (some actually not English but with strong connections with our shores) also have anniversaries this year.

Thou knowest, Lord, the secrets of our hearts

Henry Purcell (1659-95)

As a model of stately simplicity, Purcell set these words for the Funeral of Queen Mary - ironically to be performed again a few months later at Purcell's own funeral.

Preces and Responses

Rejoice in the Lord alway ('Bell anthem')

John Reading (1645-92)

Henry Purcell

Instrumental interludes, exhortative solo sections and cheery choruses are hallmarks of this well-known setting of verses from Philipians.

Te Deum in C

Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

A short, exuberant masterpiece from Haydn's final years.

Organ Concerto in F, Op 4, No 4 (1st movt)

G F Handel (1685-1759)

Witty banter between solo and strings from the theatrical world of Handel's London oratorios.

The King shall rejoice

G F Handel

Written for the Coronation of King George II in 1727.

Cast thy burden upon the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-47)

A simple postscript to our service from 'Elijah', first performed at Birmingham Town Hall in 1846.

James Saunders has been fascinated by church music since joining one of his father's choirs at the age of seven. He remains an enthusiastic singer. After reading History at Durham, he completed a doctorate at Cambridge University exploring the impact of the English Reformation on cathedral choirs. Ordained in 2001, he served as a curate in 'Benjamin Britten country', on the east coast of Suffolk, before taking up his current post as Team Vicar in the Oakham Team Ministry. From September, James will begin his new role as Chaplain at Uppingham School.

James Lloyd Thomas has been a pillar of the Summer Schools and Festival since the early 1990's, when he served as Organist at Oundle School. Currently he is Organist to the University of Sussex.

YOUNG ORGANISTS PRESENTATION RECITAL

Oundle
FOR ORGANISTS

2.30pm Oundle School Chapel



Young organists attending the Exploring New Repertoire and Style and Technique programmes offer a composite recital - a snapshot of emerging talent. Many of those playing may well rise to positions of prominence and to famous organ lofts!

Next week, students on Prospective Organ Scholars play their Presentation Recital in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Saturday 25 July (7.30pm) - well worth a visit.

The growth of Oundle for Organists over twenty five years has been truly exciting. Thank you to all our supporters and to the RCO for so creative an ongoing partnership.

Students are listed on pages 61 and 62.

The recital ends at 4pm.

Sponsors: Martin and Ann Llowarch

Open-air Theatre ODDSOCKS PRODUCTIONS

7.00pm (gates open 6pm)

The Creed Chapel, Ashton

Richard III

By William Shakespeare

Andy Barrow

RICHARD, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards KING RICHARD III, brother to the King GEORGE, Duke of CLARENCE; Gentleman Coffin Carrier; DUKE of BUCKINGHAM; DUKE of NORFOLK

Edward Day

KING EDWARD IV; 1st MURDERER/TYRREL; RATCLIFFE the Executioner; Lord Mayor of London; LORD STANLEY

Neal Craig

Andrew McGillan

BRACKENBURY, Lieutenant of the Tower; Gentleman Coffin Carrier; EARL RIVERS; Prince EDWARD, son to KING EDWARD; EARL of RICHMOND, afterwards King Henry VII; LADY ANNE, widow of Edward son of Henry VI; MARGARET, widow of King Henry VI; LORD HASTINGS; Young YORK, son of KING EDWARD; CAPTAIN BLUNT; 2ND MURDERER

Harriet Rose

Kaitlin Howard

ELIZABETH, Queen to KING EDWARD IV; CATESBY

After a long civil war between the Royal Houses of York and Lancaster, England enjoys a period of peace under King Edward IV and the victorious Yorks. But Edward's younger brother, Richard, resents Edward's power and the happiness of those around him. Malicious, power-hungry, and bitter about his physical deformity (and quite ghastly face), Richard secretly aspires to the throne, and resolves to murder all those who stand in his way.

Using his intelligence, skills of deception and hypnotic nose, Richard begins his campaign for the throne. He persuades a noblewoman, Lady Anne, to marry him - even though she knows that he murdered her first husband. He has his own brother, Clarence, executed, and shifts the

burden of guilt onto his sick older brother, King Edward. After King Edward dies, Richard becomes lord protector of England - the figure in charge until the elder of Edward's two sons grows up. In many ways 'Richard III' is not dissimilar to the 1980s power soap, 'Dallas'.

Richard has his own older brother executed, and shifts the burden of guilt onto King Edward in order to accelerate Edward's illness and death. After King Edward dies, the rightful heir to the throne is Edward's young son, Edward V, with his brother Richard next in line, but their uncle Richard makes himself Lord Protector of England, to rule until Edward V is of age.

Next Richard kills the court noblemen who are loyal to the princes, most notably Lord Hastings, the Lord Chamberlain of England.

He then has the boys' relatives on their mother's side arrested and executed. With Elizabeth and the princes now unprotected, Richard has his political allies, particularly Lord Buckingham, campaign to have him crowned king. Richard then imprisons the young princes in the Tower and hires villains to smother them.

By this time, Richard's reign of terror has caused the common people of England to hate him, and he has alienated nearly all his courtiers. In France the Earl of Richmond, related to the House of Lancaster, is preparing to claim the throne and is gathering forces; many noblemen leave England to join him.

Meanwhile Richard tries to cling on to power. He has his wife, Queen Anne, murdered, with the intention of marrying his niece young Elizabeth, the daughter of the former Queen Elizabeth and the late King Edward IV, in order to secure his claim to the throne. Queen Elizabeth manages to forestall him, however, and secretly promises to marry young Elizabeth to Richmond.

Richmond finally invades England. The night before the battle Richard has a dream in which the ghosts of all the people he has murdered appear and curse him, telling him that he will die the next day. In the battle on the following morning, Richard is killed, and Richmond is crowned King Henry VII. Promising a new era of peace for England, the new king is betrothed to young Elizabeth in order to unite the warring houses of Lancaster and York.

Oddssocks was formed in 1989 by husband and wife Andy Barrow and Elli Mackenzie who met at the Webber Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. By combining their classical acting skills with clowning techniques gained whilst working with The National Street Theatre and writing skills honed by working with The Marcher Lords Historical Promotions Unit, the unique 'Bard's Best Bits' was developed and commissioned by English Heritage for performances across their various national sites. By 1993, demand for the Oddssocks style of theatre was so great that Andy and Elli embarked upon their first full-scale summer tour. Since then, Oddssocks has toured twice a year to England, Wales, the Channel Islands and often to the Middle East.

There will be one interval of 15 minutes. Bar and coffee available.