

Tuesdays@1
25th October – Simon Bell
(Director of Choral Music at Dean Close School, Cheltenham)

Programme

C.H.H. Parry (1848-1918)	Chorale Fantasia on "The Old 100th"
W. Harris (1883-1973)	A Fancy
C. Franck (1822-1890)	Prière
J. Jongen (1873-1953)	Sonata Eroïca

Simon Bell became Director of Choral Music and Organist at Dean Close School in Cheltenham in September 2012, directing the choristers and lay clerks of Tewkesbury Abbey Schola Cantorum in the weekday services in Tewkesbury Abbey. His post at Dean Close also includes responsibility for all the choral music in the Senior School. Prior to his current role, Simon was Assistant Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral, and has also held posts at Southwell Minster, Westminster Abbey, and St Albans Cathedral.

Simon graduated from the University of Leeds with first class honours and holds an MMus from the Royal College of Music. He was twice a prize winner at the coveted St Albans International Organ Festival and is a past Limpus prize winner in the FRCO diploma examination. He is also a former holder of the WT Best Memorial Organ Scholarship, awarded by the Worshipful Company of Musicians. Simon continues to be active as a solo organist, performing concerts regularly in Cathedrals and Churches up and down the UK and abroad. Between 2015 and 2018, he was the Festival Organist at the Edington Festival of Music within the Liturgy. Since March 2020, he has been the Musical Director of Stroud Choral Society.

Organ Rebuild

We are very proud of our world famous Klais organ. In January 2023 there will be a major overhaul of the organ. Philipp Klais and his team from Bonn will mastermind a comprehensive rebuild, cleaning and restoring the pipework. The electronics and the action will be overhauled and replaced and there will be a few small tonal alternations. This exciting project will cost £250,000. ***If you'd like to donate to support the work of this project***, you can send a cheque made payable to Bath Abbey, to Bath Abbey Offices, 9 Kingston Buildings, Bath BA1 1LT or pay by BACS using the following details:

Natwest Plc
Bath Abbey PCC
Sort Code: 56-00-34
Account Number: 00232971
Ref: Organ Rebuild

To find out further information, contact hwilliams@bathabbey.org. Thank you.

Evening Concerts

Remembrance Day Concert - Friday 11 November at 7pm

This year we remember and celebrate *Ralph Vaughan Williams'* enormous contribution to church music in the 150th anniversary of his death. The programme will open with his moving setting of words by George Herbert in the Five Mystical Songs (solo baritone Mike Entwisle). *Herbert Howells* was inspired by *Vaughan Williams's* music and *Howells'* emotional and powerful unaccompanied Requiem, written tragically after his son, Michael, died aged 9, will be sung alongside his intense and beautiful anthem 'Take him earth for cherishing' (written on the death of President Kennedy in 1963). As the tragedy of war continues in Ukraine, *John Rutter's* evocative setting of A Prayer for Ukraine and two other contemporary works *Lux aeterna* by Abbey Lay Clerk *James Millichap* and Lord, you have been my dwelling place by the Director of Music *Huw Williams* renew our prayers for peace and reconciliation. Featuring the Abbey Boys, Girls, Lay Clerks and the Chamber Choir.

Tickets £22, £17 and £10 (16s and under half price) from Bath Box Office www.bathboxoffice.org.uk

A Christmas Celebration - Saturday 10 December at 7pm

With popular favourites, and some unexpected items, there will be carols for the congregation to join in, together with readings. This will be a memorable and colourful evening full of fun and style. This carol concert with a variety of music from all styles features the youngest Abbey Choir, the Melody Makers, and the Boys Choir, the Girls Choir and the Lay Clerks.

Tickets £22, £17 and £10 (16s and under half price) from Bath Box Office www.bathboxoffice.org.uk

A Baroque Christmas - Saturday 17 December at 7pm

Baroque Christmas music at Bath Abbey will be full of charming and elegant repertoire to match the poise and style of the Georgian city. With seasonal and uplifting music by J.S. Bach - *Gloria in excelsis Deo* and *Et in terra pax*, Jauchzet - *Frolocket* and *Komm, Jesu komm*, and a stylish and dance-like *Magnificat* by Buxtehude, there will also be music by Purcell *O sing unto the Lord, Rejoice in the Lord* and Monteverdi. The Abbey Girls and Lay Clerks perform alongside baroque specialists Rejouissance.

Tickets £22, £17 and £10 (16s and under half price) from Bath Box Office www.bathboxoffice.org.uk

La Nativité - Messiaen - Wednesday 21 December at 7pm

A Christmas meditation with organist Huw Williams and scripture readings. All welcome, no reserved seating or tickets required.

New Year Epiphany Concert – A Ceremony of Carols - Saturday 7 January at 7pm

Christmas is a time of great celebration and in the church we traditionally keep 40 days of celebration from Christmas Day until 2nd February, Candlemas. In the middle of the 40 days, on 6th January, we celebrate the Epiphany, when the wise men from distant lands visited the stable in Bethlehem. Many other Christian traditions, especially in the east of Europe, exchange presents on Epiphany and thus this concert is a continuation of the church's Christmas 40 days of festivities following Christ's birth.

Tickets £18 and £15 (16s and under half price) from Bath Box Office www.bathboxoffice.org.uk