'The Organ in Concert'

King's College Chapel, South Road, Taunton, TA1 3LA Monday July 20th – 8:00 p.m.

Host: Miles Quick

'The King of Instruments' is the description which has long been ascribed to that multi-voiced beast which lurks in dark corners of mighty cathedrals or tiny village churches and which can move you to tears with its sweetness or blast you out of your seat. The organist is also a strange creature, who can somehow simultaneously play more than one keyboard, push and pull mysterious knobs and levers all while apparently tap dancing on a complex set of pedals.

The Taunton Festival celebrates the organ in a concert which presents this

amazing instrument in the many roles it can play – as soloist, partner and accompanist. In tonight's programme



we welcome **Margaret Phillips** (*left*), international concert organist, adjudicator and teacher, as our principal guest performer. In addition, there are solo contributions from Stephen Bell and Miles Quick, both local organists, and successively directors of music at Queen's College, Taunton. The 4th organist is Joseph Mason (see page 22), currently an organ scholar at Lincoln College, Oxford, who will be accompanying his college choir as well as playing a solo. Further highlights include performances from Lynn Carter, oboe; Sarah Lovell, 'cello; and Giles Harrison, timpani. We also welcome Orchestra West, with their guest conductor, **Oliver Gooch** (*right*).

The organ in King's College Chapel, Taunton, has a fine case. Originally, the organ was made for the church of St. Michael Bassishaw, in the city of London, a church re-built by Wren after the great fire of 1666. The case came to Taunton in 1980, when the old-established form of J. W .Walker built a fine 2-manual and pedal instrument within the case. Though not a really large instrument, it has plenty of power and variety of sound, and is helped by its open position in the chapel, and the acoustic of the building.

Tonight's programme is very varied, and is detailed below – the running order may be subject to change.

Sinfonia to Cantata 29 J. S. Bach (1685-1750) arr. Guilmant (1837-1911)

Solo Margaret Phillips

Symphony No. 2 William Boyce (1711-1779)

OrchestraWest

Adagio for organ & strings attrib. Albinoni (1671-1751) but by Giazotto, 20th century

Miles Quick with OrchestraWest

Adagio Domenico Ziopoli (1688-1726)

Lynn Carter, Sarah Lovell, Stephen Bell, OrchestraWest

Concerto in B Flat. Op. 4 No. 6 Handel (1686-1759)

Joseph Mason with OrchestraWest

'God is Gone Up' Finzi (1901-1056)

Lincoln College Choir, Joseph Mason – conducted by winner of today's Young Choral Conductor competition.

INTERVAL

Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor BWV 542 J. S. Bach

Solo Margaret Phillips

Symphony No. 1 William Boyce

OrchestraWest

Fantasia in F Minor/Major K594 Mozart (1756-1791)

Organ duet by Stephen Bell and Miles Quick

Concerto for Organ Strings and Timpani Poulenc (1899-1963)

Margaret Phillips, Giles Harrison (*right*) and strings of OrchestraWest

Wow, What an evening of music! Don't miss it.

