

KEBLE PAST AND PRESENT

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Organ Scholars Since the War

The organ scholars of the second half of the century have provided their fair share of distinguished musicians. David Owen Norris (1972), now an honorary fellow, is frequently heard as a radio broadcaster. First and foremost he is a pianist, setting out as an accompanist to such diverse artists as contralto Dame Janet Baker and harmonica player Larry Adler. He is also a fine composer. After his Keble days, Simon Over (1984) also initially made his name as a pianist, accompanying many internationally celebrated singers. From 1992 to 2002 he was Director of Music at St Margaret's, Westminster, and the Chapel of St Mary Undercroft in the Palace of Westminster, and since then his career has focused more on conducting. Another Keble musician drawn to the podium is Charles Hazlewood (1986), currently Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Concert Orchestra, with whom he made his debut at the BBC Proms in 2006. Known to millions as 'the face of classical music for the BBC' (*Daily Telegraph*), he regularly broadcasts from the Proms and has written several popular classical music television programmes, including *Vivaldi Unmasked* and others on Mozart, Beethoven and Tchaikovsky.

Neil Cockburn (1992) has pursued a more organ-related path. He is Head of Organ Studies at Mount Royal College Organ Academy and Curator of the Carthy Organ at Jack Singer Concert Hall in Calgary, Canada. Another former Keble organ scholar to remain closely in touch with the instrument is Philip Stopford (1996), who has been Director of Music at Belfast Cathedral since 2003, where he has set up the



Above: Scott Ellaway

Cathedral Youth Choir and Cathedral Voices, both broadening the appeal of music at the Cathedral and providing a wider repertoire. Of the more recent incumbents, Scott Ellaway (2002) has already made a mark, gaining a wealth of experience working with some of the world's top orchestras and artists; he has recently been appointed Artistic Director of Orchestra Europa, Europe's Orchestral Academy.

Simon Whalley