

Preface

This is a a collection of contributed papers by David and Des's friends and colleagues and is issued to mark their respective 80th and 70th birthday. For the past forty years they have made fundamental contributons in the area of differential equations, operator theory and function space theory, and it is fitting that these contributions reflect that.

Our thanks must also go to Dr Thomas Hempfling, Executive Editor, Mathematics Birkhäuser and Ms Sylvia Lotrovsky for the help and assistance given to us during the preparation of this volume. Finally we thank all the authors who contributed papers to this special edition to mark David and Des's birthdays.

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