

Trustees' Annual Report 2018

Charity Name: Cymdeithas Côr Meibion Caerfyrddin

Charity Registration Number: 259482

Charity Address: The address of the Secretary (Tŷ Hir, Picton Court, Caerfyrddin SA31 3DQ)

Trustees:

Dewi Jones (Chairman)
Dai Lewis (Vice-Chairman)
Steve Thomas (Treasurer)
Huw Michael (Secretary)

Governing document: Constitution adopted at Choir EGM on 22/08/2017

Objects:

The objects of the Choir shall be the advancement of public education in the art of choral music, and the learning and public performance of choral works, whilst assisting charitable causes.

Activities, Achievements and Performance during 2018.

Governance

There were no changes to the Choir's Constitution during 2018.

Officials.

Dylan Jones (T1) resigned as Treasurer after long period of outstanding service, and Steve Thomas (B2) was elected Treasurer in his place. Dylan agreed to continue in his role as Stage Manager. Wyn Evans (B2), the previous Chairman, expressed a preference to be replaced as Vice-Chairman, and by September Dai Lewis (B2) had been elected as Vice-Chairman in his place.

Membership

The annual membership fee remained unchanged at £120 per year in 2018.

The choir lost James Kettle (B1) as a member in 2018, but we are hopeful that he may return again at some point when his circumstances permit.

Three new members joined the choir during the year: Mike Brown (T1) from Llanfihangel ar Arth, Tristram Davies (T1) from Abergwili, and Alan 'Cash' Evans (T2) from Trevaughan. Mike was a regular attendee at the weekly practices throughout the year. Following the birth of his first child, Tristram was unable to attend the weekly practices in the 2nd half of the year due to family commitments. Nevertheless we are hopeful that he will return to our midst in 2019. Alan attended weekly practices regularly having joined in September.

Iori Jones (T1) was absent for most of the year due to the illness, and subsequent passing, of his partner.

The number of choir members at the end of the year was 38.

Attendance

Attendance at rehearsals was fairly consistent around the 26 mark.

Attendance at performances was at a similar, sometimes lower level, between 20 and 26. For the choir concert on 13 October we had 29 choristers on stage.

Concerts

The highlight of the year was the Choir's Anniversary Concert at the Lyric Theatre on 13th October. Despite the awful weather (serious flooding in Carmarthen town and the surrounding area) we

succeeded in achieving a good audience at the Lyric. Our choir sang in an united choir with Mynydd Mawr, Dyffryn Aman, Dyffryn Tywi and Burry Port Male Voice Choirs. The evening's soloists were Trystan Llyr (Tenor) and Jessica Robinson (Soprano) , and the guest accompanist was Meirion Wynn Jones. The compere for the evening was Garry Owen (BBC). Based on feedback after the event, the concert was enjoyed by all and a good Male Voice sound was achieved. Approx. £4000 profit was made. The evening's President, Mr Brian Jones, Castell Howell, contributed generously to the costs of the concert.

In addition, the choir held a concert under the auspices of Carmarthenshire Tourist Board on the Gwili Railway in June. In December the choir joined Burry Port Male Voice choir for a concert in St Mary's Church, Burry Port with Wyn Maskell conducting the joint choir. The evening's soloists included Elin Manahan Thomas and Osian Wyn Bowen. Proceeds from the evening were for the benefit of the RNLI.

Weddings

We sang at 5 weddings during the year raising valuable income for the choir. Our performances were well received at all the weddings.

April - English Baptist Church - Peter Davies (B1) and Pat
August- Abergwili Chapel (Angharad Eynon)
August- Llangunnor Church (Emily James)
October - Llanrhidian (Michelle Lawlor)
November - Pontarothi Church (Georgia Reed)

Funerals

The choir sang at the funeral of Mr Ken Davies, Clynderwen on July 6th.

Charities

Owing to the healthy state of the finances, the Choir committee decided in 1Q18 to make donations to local charities in each of the succeeding quarters:

2Q - Eiriol £250
3Q - Morrison Hospital League of Friends £250
4Q - Llyfrau Llafar Cymru/ Talking Books Wales £250

In addition, the choir performed at the following events to raise money for charity:

Alzheimers - St Catherine's Walk (switching on the Christmas lights)

Tenovus - Christ Church (annual Christmas Concert)

Glangwili Hospital League of Friends - collections in Day's and M&S supplemented by a choir donation to make the sum up to £200.

Merched y Wawr Plygain - Christian Aid - £60

Social Activities:

Pie and Mash evening in the Quins Club - March.

Tea on the Gwili Railway - May.

An afternoon in the Rake and Riddle Penclawd following the wedding in Llanrhidian - October.

Anniversary Dinner at the Falcon- November. Long service award plates were presented to those members who had given more than 25 years' service to the choir.

Repertoire

The choir added 1 new item to its repertoire in 2018: Hafan Gobaith, in addition to re-familiarisation with other pieces from the past in preparation for the Anniversary Concert: Amen (This Little Light of Mine), Dashenka.

The choir's repertoire is listed on the website.

Conductor and accompanist

The Trustees wish to express their appreciation of the services of the Reverend Wyn Maskell (and Ms Heather Williams. We are indeed fortunate to have these two talented musicians at our service.