

Trustees' Annual Report 2022

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:

Kevin Thomas (Chairman)

Haydn Lloyd (Vice-Chairman)

Ieuan Phillips (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 2022.

Governance

There were no changes to the Choir's Constitution during 2022.

Officials.

Kevin Thomas took over from Dai Lewis as Chairman at the AGM in February. Haydn Lloyd was appointed Vice-Chairman, and Dewi Jones as Librarian. Felix Merry replaced Peter Davies as Bass I representative and Richard Evans replaced David Jones as Bass II representative.

Huw Michael agreed to continue as Secretary and Ieuan Phillips agreed to continue as Treasurer.

Jeff Thomas (B1) agreed to continue as President.

Membership

The Committee agreed to halve the annual membership fee for 2022 to £60 per year to reduce the cost to existing members and to avoid it being a barrier to prospective new members. Posters and cards were produced to promote the choir and were placed in prominent locations around Carmarthen. Kevin made an appeal for new members at the Clwb Cinio, and Haydn appeared on Rhaglen Geraint Lloyd on Radio Cymru to promote the choir.

A former choir Chairman, Wyn Evans (B2), who was our accompanist, Heather's partner, passed away in April after a period of ill-health. John Gibby, the Choir's Life President, also passed away in April followed by his wife, Muriel in September. Iris, Eirwyn Williams (T2)'s wife, also passed away after a long illness. God rest their souls.

A few members were absent throughout the year due to ill health: Arwyn Hughes (T1), Clive Pugh (B2), and Paul Endicott (T1). We hope to see them return in 2023.

Peter Davies (B1) and Kevin Gilbert (T2) left the choir at the beginning of the year.

5 new members joined the choir early in the year : Eifion Lewis (T2), Nigel Williams (T2), Nigel Lewis (T1), Vince James (B1) (previously a member) and John Etherington (B2).

The number of choir members at the end of 2022 stands at 27 excluding those who have been absent due to ill health.

Attendance

Attendance at the weekly rehearsals was disappointingly low earlier in the year but improved before the summer with the addition of the new members and was regularly more than 20 for the remainder of the year.

Concerts

We sang with three other choirs at the 60th anniversary concert of Burry Port Male Voice Choir at Theatr y Ffwrnais on the 5th of November.

Tenovus Charity Christmas concert in Christ Church on 1st December.

Other Performances

- The Park Carmarthen on the occasion of lighting the beacon for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on 2nd June.
- The Park on Saturday 9th July as part of the local Council's summer programme of entertainment at the Park on Saturdays.
- Yr Egin on 15th October as part of their Autumn Festival.
- Guildhall Square on November 19th as part of the Christmas lights switch on day.
- Pasydderwen Care Home on 6th December
- Merched y Wawr's Plygain on 11th December at Priordy (6 of us !)

Weddings

4 June 2022: Wedding at the Ceridwen Centre , Fferm Penybank, Drefach Felindre (Nathan and Amy)

9 July 2022: Wedding at Capel Newydd, Llanddarog (Carys a Kristen)

21 September 2022 : Wedding at the Courtyard, (Fferm Pengay), Ferryside (Bobby and Fay)

Funerals

Many members of the choir attended the funeral of Wyn Tegryn Evans at Priordy Chapel on April 12th along with members of Côr Meibion De Cymru. The singing of Wyn's favourite hymn, Tŷ Ddewi, did Wyn proud.

Charities

We contributed £50 to the Eisteddfod yr Urdd Sir Gâr appeal in connection with our performance at the Plygain.

Social Activities:

Afternoon tea on the Gwili Railway in August.

A number of our members went to meet members of the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir in the Ivy Bush Hotel on Thursday evening 17th November and had a most enjoyable evening singing together in the bar.

Choristers also enjoyed food and liquid refreshment in the Quins Club following our performance at Plasydderwen on 6th December.

Ladies' Committee

The Choir thanks the Ladies' Committee for their continued support, especially for taking care of the choir uniforms and for organising the afternoon tea on the Gwili Railway in August.

Repertoire

We focused on learning the songs for the two WAMC concerts in 2023 and 2024, some of which were performed at the Burry Port Concert in November 2022. We also learned two new carols for Christmas: Stori'r Preseb and Ave Maria.

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. Wyn still travels from Felinfach to Carmarthen every week to take our weekly rehearsals. We are indeed fortunate to have these two talented musicians at our service.

