CARDIFF BACH CHOIR

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2017

**AUTUMN TERM**

**We will start on September 5th  at 7.15 with a normal rehearsal** when we will be giving out the music for the December concert and the Mumbles festival concert.

**MUMBLES FESTIVAL OPENING CONCERT SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16th**

We have sufficient members to make a choir in Mumbles. We will not be booking a coach but car sharing. Several of you have already indicated that you can give lifts and we will sort this out at the first rehearsal

**Music**

* The two Shakespeare pieces

‘Full Fathom Five’ and ‘ It was a lover and his Lass’

* Two of the Rutter pieces

We will be giving out the books on September 5th

Joint pieces with the other choirs

* Zadok the priest
* Parry - I Was Glad
* One movement of Vivaldi Gloria
* Hallelujah Chorus

Music for all these pieces will be given out on the day of the concert.

There will be a workshop for people going to Mumbles at the School on Saturday 9th September from 11 till 1.30

**DECEMBER CONCERT**

This will be in Hoddinott Hall on Saturday December 2nd. This will be an expensive concert SO WE MUST SELL AS MANY TICKETS AS POSSIBLE. The hall holds 350. I will have 150 tickets for choir members to sell, and tickets can be bought from BBC Audience Line and WMC booking office.

Soloists will be Gail Pearson Soprano, Eirlys Myfanwy Davies Mezzo soprano, Philip Lloyd Evans Bass, Paul Badley Tenor. The orchestra is the British Sinfonietta and the organist will be Philip Aspden

**Works**

* Vaughan Williams -Fantasia on Christmas Carols
* Mozart - Solemn Vesper s
* Haydn - St Nicholas Mass
* 3 carols by John Rutter

If any of you have copies will you please bring them to the rehearsal. We have hired 55 of the Vaughan Williams and the Vespers from Ty Cerdd. We now have to pay for these which will cost £110 for three months. The Haydn Mass is being hired from another choir at a cost of £60 but we will not have these copies until October. Sally has three copies of the Vaughan Williams for sale at £5.50 each. Please speak to her on the 5th if you wish to purchase one of these copies.

Since we fixed the date and made all the other arrangements for this concert some time ago we are very disappointed to learn that Llandaff have put their concert on the same night. In fact we booked Hoddinnott Hall in February and the date has been on the Cardiff Choirs Exchange site since March and on our website with early information for some time. They have admitted that they did not check to see if there were any other concerts before making their booking. We deliberately avoided November as they have traditionally had their concerts in Mid-November. The Chair has written expressing our disappointment at this and asking if they would change their date but this is unlikely. It means we will have to work even harder to sell tickets.

Rehearsals will continue throughout the term including half term week and there will be at least one Saturday workshop on a date still to be fixed. Tomos will be helping out at some of the rehearsals when we will have split rehearsals. There is a lot of music to learn most of which can be found on Cyberbass so please work at home to ensure we make maximum use of rehearsal time. As always attendance at as many rehearsals as possible is essential.

**Messiah in All Saints Mumbles on Sunday December 3rd**

 We have been invited to sing with the Church choir in a performance of the Messiah Sunday December 3rd. At the last rehearsal there was sufficient interest for us to accept the invitation. More information during the term

**Messiah in Tabernacle Morriston December 9th**

 We have again neem asked to join Morriston in a performance of the Messiah on December 9th. I will be sending a list for names around next term. More information to follow

**Carol Singing at Holm House Wednesday December 13th 8-9pm**

We have been invited to sing carols at Holm House again this year so we will be asking for volunteers nearer the time. Holm House will again provide refreshments and will be giving us a donation for funds.

**Tony Edwards**

 I am sure that, like me, you were stunned and saddened at Tony’s sudden death. Thank you to all of you who attended his funeral at the Cathedral

The number of people there to pay their respects showed what a very popular and respected person Tony was. He was a very committed choir member and a great asset in all ways and we will really miss him, not least for his help in rehearsals. It was Tony’s wish that we sing an evensong at suitable church in July. I have looked at Tewkesbury Abbey but they have no Sundays available. I will continue to investigate.

**Sarah Philips**

As I reported in the summer newsletter, our treasurer Sarah Philips is standing down after 5 years of looking after our money. I am sure you will agree that she has done a great job especially in 2015-16 with the Stuttgart Project. Our thanks go Sarah for her hard work and diligence to ensure that our finances remain in good order for whoever takes over as treasurer at the AGM

**Luke**

We have met with Luke and I am delighted to inform you that he wishes to continue as our Musical Director for the foreseeable future. (he is of course on a three year contract which we hope will be renewed next year)

His hip surgery has been postponed indefinitely the moment so hopefully we will have a slightly less traumatic year than last year although I have been in touch with Tomos who will helping with rehearsals

**2018 concerts**

The spring concert date is still to be fixed as I am awaiting a reply from the Cathedral regarding dates. (despite four e mails and three phone calls ). We have suggested Saturday 24th March or Saturday 21st April

I hope that you are all looking forward to the new term and some great singing

Best wishes

 Diane