

# Cardiff Bach Choir

## Spring Newsletter 2019

### May 11<sup>th</sup> Bach B Minor Mass

Rehearsals are going well for this concert with good attendance. It is a hard sing and does require people to do their homework so keep at it especially using the rehearsal tapes available. Cyberbass is free, Choraline rehearsal tapes can be purchased at £9.99 but is well worth it as it is easier to follow than Cyberbass.

There are 6 more rehearsals as follows

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30-2.30, April 9<sup>th</sup> April 16<sup>th</sup>, April 30<sup>th</sup>, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Please make every effort to attend all the rehearsals and let me know if you are not going to be present.

I know that there has been some comment about the seating arrangements. Luke is working to ensure the best sound which is why we have tried several different arrangements. There may have to be some further adjustments when we get into the hall. We will be arranged on five levels so vision should not be a problem.

Thanks to Tim for assisting in the parts rehearsals. Thanks also to Sally for her hard work. Sally will also be playing continuo in the concert.

### Concert Arrangements Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Full rehearsal with orchestra and soloists in Hoddinott Hall starting at 1.30 aiming to finish at 5pm.

It is essential that we have a full choir for this rehearsal. Failure to attend without good reason and in discussion with Luke, may mean you cannot sing in the concert. I understand that for some of you this can be very tiring. I would ask that you come even if you find you are unable to sing in all the rehearsal. I would advise people not to try and go home between the rehearsal and the concert unless it is essential that you do so.

If you know you are unable to sing in the concert please let Luke or me know as soon as possible. The concert starts at 7.15 to fit in with WMC times

#### Dress

Dinner suits and bow ties for the men.

Ladies Black T shirts and trousers with our purple scarves which I will bring. Minimal jewellery.

We will be using black folders so please let me know if you need one.

## **Tickets**

This is a very expensive concert (Costing approx. £8000) and while we have budgeted for it and know we will make a loss, it is essential that we sell as many tickets as possible. It is a highly prestigious concert so we want a good audience. Even if we sell every seat, we will still lose money. Such is the nature of putting on concerts of this nature in a first-class venue with first class musicians! Please be assured the committee keep a very close eye on costs and I can report that our finances are in a healthy position with a reserve which allows us to put on this calibre of concert.

## **Summer rehearsals**

May 14<sup>th</sup> **All Music to be returned at this rehearsal.** May 21<sup>st</sup>, June 4<sup>th</sup>, June 11<sup>th</sup>, June 18<sup>th</sup>, June 25<sup>th</sup>, and July 2<sup>nd</sup> (at Christchurch, Radyr) July 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **July 16<sup>th</sup> Summer Concert**

### **Christchurch, Radyr. 7.30 pm.**

As last year this will be an informal concert aimed at family and friends. This year we will be featuring favourite choruses which may be from opera or other works. There will also be solos by Luke and Sally. If you have a favourite chorus you would like us to include please let Luke know, bearing in kind we have to ensure we can get the necessary music.

The concert will be followed by buffet supper. (more details at a later date)

The cost for the evening will be £10 for choir members and £12 for guests to include the supper and a drink and must be purchased in advance so that we have the numbers for the catering.

If people want to come just to the concert the cost will be £7 and they can pay at the door.

We had a very successful event last year so let us hope that the weather is as kind

## **Future plans and other news**

### **Autumn 2019**

#### **Term will Start on 10<sup>th</sup> September**

We will not be doing a big concert in the Autumn. Instead we are arranging a '**Come and Sing**' event at All Saints Penarth on **October 26<sup>th</sup>**. **Details to be finalised.**

### **Christmas 2019**

We expect to give our usual performance at Holm House. As usual Paul Cantrill will be making the arrangements.

## 2020

### January 18<sup>th</sup> Llandaff Cathedral      **Music for Epiphany**

Gian Menotti ' **Amahl and the Night Visitors**'. This will feature five artists from WNO in a semi staged performance.

JS Bach **Cantata 65 (Epiphany Cantata)**

Benjamin Britten **Ceremony of Carols** arranged for SATB

### May 9<sup>th</sup> 2020 Final date and venue to be confirmed (provisional programme).

Carl Orff      **Carmina Burana** ( with two pianos and percussion)

Bob Chilcott **Songs and Cries of London Town**

Britten      **Gloriana Choral Dances**

### November 2020 (probably at All Saints Penarth)

#### **War and Peace**

Haydn **Nelson Mass** and Karl Jenkins **Armed Man** and possible a Bach Cantata

### March 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 (provisionally booked)

Llandaff Cathedral

JS Bach **St John Passion**

## Other news

### Life President

As you know Cliff Bunford was the life president of the Choir until his death in December 2018. Although there is nothing in our constitution to say we have to have a president, the committee have agreed that we would like to continue the practice of appointing a life president. We have agreed that we would like to offer the position to Dr Haydn Jones. Haydn is one of the longest serving member and a most loyal member of the choir and is a good ambassador for us.

### Stan Harding

As many of you know Stan is due to retire in the summer. Stan has been a good friend to the choir and is always so helpful and flexible. We will greatly miss him. What many of you do not know is that he gets no extra money for opening up the school for us in the evenings and on occasional Saturdays. We will be making a collection for Stan. After the May concert we will give everyone an envelope in which to put their donation and we will be presenting Stan with a cheque at our final rehearsal at the school for this season on July 9<sup>th</sup> .

I hope his replacement will be as accommodating.

I hope you find this newsletter helpful. The committee have tried to plan as far ahead as possible to give people plenty of notice. I think you will agree it is a challenging and interesting programme with music to suit all tastes with a good smattering of Bach

Diane