

Newsletter 31st. May 2021

Welcome sun and welcome summer! We hope you’ve all been taking advantage of the lovely weather over this Spring Bank Holiday and are now starting to make the most of a small amount of freedom from Covid’s restrictions.

# Workshops

As Diane mentioned in last Tuesday’s Zoom rehearsal, we are now in the position of being able and permitted to arrange some face to face sessions, albeit in a very different format from our usual rehearsal sessions in Coed Glas School. Diane has been in regular contact with the school and we now know that the school will not be taking any bookings until September, always assuming that the Covid situation improves considerably by then.

Nick Hawkins, our point of contact with Christchurch, Radyr, has arranged for us to use their hall (New Church School Rooms) for 3 Saturday workshops. Luke and we have agreed a workshop format, initially to get our voices used to singing again. We are sure you will all agree that our singing voices have certainly suffered over the last year and could do with some firstaid and probably rust remover asap!

The workshop dates are:

Saturday 19th. June 2021 Saturday 3rd. July 2021 Saturday 24th. July 2021

And will be from 10.30am to 3.00pm

Because of space constrictions with the present 2 metres rule and even though 30 is the maximum number of people permitted to sing indoors we are only able to accommodate 25 at any one time to ensure social distancing. We shall therefore be in two groups; one in the morning and one in the afternoon with an hour between the sessions to allow for cleaning. Luke will let us know soon how he wants to format these two groups so that we can tell you which session you will be attending. Diane will be sending out the arrangements for the sessions with instructions which have to be followed. We will be working closely with the Church and carrying out full risk assessments to ensure that all safety measures are in place. Registration will be essential.

# A successor for Luke

Every cloud has a silver lining and it has certainly been the case that even Covid has given us a silver lining in that we’ve been able to work with Luke every week, without his having to travel the long distance from St. David’s. Last September we were all sad to learn that Luke would be leaving us. Luke has expressed how committed he

is to our choir and how much he loves working with us. He has said he would like to do the St. John Passion with us next spring and has discussed with us how this can happen. We have therefore agreed that he will take 3 out of 4 weekly rehearsals and that we shall advertise for a Development Assistant. He/she will attend one of those rehearsals with Luke and then take the remaining rehearsal him/herself.

An advertisement for a new Musical Director to replace Luke has now been finalised and sent to relevant choral sites. It is anticipated that the new appointment will commence in April 2022. The advertisement for the Development Assistant will run in tandem with this. Applying for the Development Assistant post would not preclude him/her from applying for the Musical Director post. If any choir member knows of a possible candidate for either post, then please contact Diane in the first instance.

There is a formal application process and shortlisted candidates will be interviewed and have an audition with the choir. We hope that we will be in a position to interview during September/October

# Future Concerts

2022 will be Cardiff Bach Choir’s Diamond Jubilee year and there will not be a better way of celebrating this than for us to perform Bach’s St. John Passion. This will be performed

on Saturday 9th April 2022 in Hoddinott Hall Covid

permitting

We are being very positive in planning a November concert and are investigating a venue and date for this.

Sadly the planned Cambridge trip could not happen this summer but this firmly remains as a future possibility. Why stop at Cambridge, when hopefully Europe might soon be in our sights again?

# A new Chairman

After over 5 happy years in this role, I shall be stepping down at our AGM in September. It has been a great pleasure to work closely with Luke, Diane and Chris Parsons ( and before him as treasurer, Sarah) Sally and Tina and with all the committee members. A great benefit of being in this position has been that I’ve got to know all the choir members’ names! Please think about what contribution you can make to our choir – we shall be needing a new Chairman!

Ann