



Pontnewydd Male Choir

CHOIR NEWSLETTER

Year 25 DECEMBER 2021



Nadolig Llawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi i gyd!

This month's birthdays.

Gareth Jeffries {T2} Friday 3rd

John James e to {B2} Tuesday 7th

Steve Evans :B1) Saturday 11th

Keith Jones {B2} Saturday 24th

Next month's newsletter will probably not list members' birthdays - my list needs updating.

Updates.

*You should have received the **special issue**. I had received a request to delay issuing this month's newsletter and the contents were a total surprise to your editor. Unlike our media, choir newsletters hopefully only give facts not speculation.*

Late bits of news also resulted in some updating of the original draft – so, as Jeremy Paxman says on University Challenge, "Let's get on with it".

We deeply regret having to announce the recent death of the wife of one of our bottom bass, **Mark Woodhouse**. The funeral will take place at the Langston Crematorium on Wednesday 15th December at 2:30pm. Anyone attending the funeral are requested to wear a bright tie or something colourful.

Here we echo our General Secretary and send our deep sympathy to Mark.

One of our "vintage" front row top tenors, **Alwyn Nutland**, is having to take an enforced rest. His wife Gwyneth sends details: - Last month he spent 8 days in The Grange hospital. He is now on a course of medication that will hopefully resolve the problem. Alwyn is not allowed to sing until the new year and he grieves that his new regime might restrict his intake of medicinal Barolo.

ACTIVITY !

Christmas Carol singing.

The choir have received two invitations to sing Christmas carols in the lead-up to Christmas. The first is from the Dragons RFC to sing again at the players family Christmas lunch at Rodney Parade on Monday 20th December at 3.30pm. The format will be the same as in 2019 and includes the invitation to join them for their meal.

The second invitation is from The Greyhound Inn, Llantrisant, Usk to sing carols on Tuesday 21st December from 7.30 pm until 8pm as part of their Victorian Christmas theme. If the weather is suitable we will be singing outside the main entrance but if it's inclement then we will be singing in the covered patio area at the rear of the pub.

We have accepted both invitations and more details will be issued at our next practices.

This update is being inserted before we hear any announcements about new restrictions due to the virus mutation. Let's hope singing will be permissible.

Worth recording.

Very recently a presentation was made to **Keith Jones** who has now completed fifty (yes **50!**) years of service. More than that – for 40 years he was our Deputy Conductor!

Keith became a chorister singing in the ‘sandwich’ sections but later moved to the bottom bass to join his father. Both also served stints as Chairman. As Deputy Conductor he was not afraid to claim that he was a ‘note basher’ and insisted on at least three repeats of any new (and old) parts of a song.

I’m sure that one of his favourite concerts was when Walford, at short notice was unable to conduct and Keith took up the baton. He found himself in front of the band of the Welsh Guards!

For some years Keith has had to cope with very variable health but on the occasion of the presentation he looked capable of handling any emergency.

Well done Keith!



This photograph was taken by second tenor Paul Wellington = thank you Paul. Where are all the photographs I expected after the November newsletter?

Roy Fisher.....Editor.