



Pontnewydd Male Choir

CHOIR NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER issue.

Year 26 September 2022

Here we go again – my second attempt at resurrecting our monthly newsletter and I'm already hoping that some of the readers will take pity on me and provide me with some news and items that will be of interest to our readership.

In the interim I'm including some "old favourite" items:

September birthdays.

Alan Hopkins (B1) Wednesday 1st

George Doherty Friday 10th

Alwyn Nutland (T1) Wed 29th

Peter Davies (B1) Thursday 2nd

Tony Carpenter (T2) Wednesday 22nd

Martin Carey (T2) Thursday 9th

Graeme Jones (T1) Saturday 25th

Chorister updates.

Roy Fisher continues his recovery and has recently moved into Llanyravon Court Nursing Home on Llanfrecha Way, Cwmbran. It's not far from the Crow's Nest pub which might encourage Roy to take an early evening stroll! Graeme Jones (Top Tenor) visits him on a regular basis and says that Roy would welcome visitors but you need to phone the Nursing Home on 01633 876112 to make an appointment. Our best wishes go to Roy.

Malcolm Gough has undergone a successful operation after years of waiting whilst there is light at the end of the tunnel for **Paul Reynolds** who now has a date later this year !

Peter Davies, some weeks ago had another bout, remarkable man that he is, shrugged it off and is back to what seems to be his normal sanguine self.

Phil Evans has returned to good health but has decided that now is the time to announce his retirement from the choir. Phil has been singing with PMC for over 20 years and has served as a committee member for much of that time. We thank him for his contribution but we have not seen the last of him as he assures me that he will continue to support the choir in whatever capacity he can. Our best wishes, Phil, on your retirement.

On a more personal note, it was back in 2010 after meeting Phil whilst out walking our dog that he persuaded me to join the choir. He carries a heavy burden of responsibility for that but I'll be forever grateful to him!

Bitter blow

For those choristers who enjoyed a pint at The Mount Pleasant pub after Friday night practice, it was with much sadness and regret that we learnt that Louise King is leaving the business. The Mount was an oasis in the desert of good beer that is Cwmbran. It appears that the unsympathetic landlords insisted on increasing the rent on the premises and this proved the final straw.

A few of us managed to have a farewell drink with Louise last Saturday and it was pleasing to see so many of her regular customers there to wish her the best whatever her future plans.

For you beer-drinking aficionados, on a more positive note, my namesake and I visited The Open Hearth pub recently to be greeted with a full array of Sharp's ale which included Atlantic, Doom Bar and Sea Fury – a site to gladden the heart.

If you know of any other such establishments, I shall be delighted to hear from you. This could prove a regular feature!



PLEASE CONTACT PONTNEWYDD MALE CHOIR AT
CONTACT@PONTNEWYDDMALECHOIR.COM
TEL: 01633 770 204 MOBILE: 07715 252 160





Practice nights – All choristers please note!

Following a couple of weeks of practicing only on Tuesday night, we will return to our usual practice arrangements of Tuesdays and Fridays from Tuesday 6th September but commence 15 minutes earlier at 7.30pm and finishing at 9pm.

New chorister recruitment

You will be aware that we are trying to recruit new members into the choir and the plan is to occasionally hold our practice nights at different venues around Cwmbran, not only to see if we can attract more choristers, but also to take our music out into the wider community. So if you know of venues that might be suitable please let me know.

Following on from our “Open Practice” Night at the Workingmen’s Club, we are holding a “**Bring a Friend**” practice night this Friday 2nd September at Cwmbran Rugby Club, starting at 7.30pm.

So, for those of you who still have friends, use your persuasive charms to bring someone along.

Engagements

Our visit to Leadon Court Care Home on Tuesday 30th August was well-received and many thanks to those choristers who were able to attend and entertain the residents, and special thanks to our soloists, Paul Reynolds and Martin Jones. It was particularly encouraging to know that all choristers tested negative for Covid before we were allowed into the premises.

The months leading up to Christmas are going to be quite busy for the choir and I have listed below our current list of engagements between now and then.

Item	Date	Arrival Time	Venue	Address
New Inn Pensioners	08/09/22	18:45	New Inn Pensioners Hall	New Rd., New Inn NP4 0PZ
Gwent Police HQ Opening	05/10/22	TBC	Gwent Police HQ	Turnpike Rd, Cwmbran NP44 2AG
St Gabriel's Fundraiser	07/10/22	18:30	St Gabriel's Church	Clomendy Rd., Old Cwmbran NP44 3LR
WAMC St David's Hall Practice	09/10/22	12:30	St Julian's School	Heather Rd., Newport NP19 7XU
West Pontnewydd Hall Fund raiser	21/10/22	18:30	West Pontnewydd Comm Hall	Heol Y Pwca, W. Pontnewydd, Cwmbran NP44 1JY
Remembrance Service	09/11/22	TBC	Holy Trinity Church	Church Rd., Pontnewydd, Cwmbran NP44 1AT
Lovelight Concert	06/12/22	TBC	St Woolos Cathedral	105 Stow Hill, Newport NP20 4SZ
Rural Concierge of Herefordshire	21/12/22	15:00	Parkway Hotel	Cwmbran Dr, Cwmbran NP44 3UW

Race Night Saturday 10th September

With choir activity returning to normal after the restrictions imposed by Covid, it's great to see our Ladies Committee back in action as well, and they've hit the ground running. On Saturday 10th September at 7.30pm they have organised a fund-raising Race Night at Cwmbran Workingmens Club. No “off course” betting is allowed but the Ladies Jockey Club will be happy to relieve you of your money on the night!

Betting Tip - Put your money on Black Beauty – now that's a dark horse!

Choir Photograph



Another date for choristers' diaries is **Tuesday 13th September** when we have arranged to have a new choir photograph taken at the start of practice. Choir blazer, grey trousers, white shirt and choir tie please, together with clean pants and vest, and book your hairdresser and nail bar appointments now to avoid disappointment.

Crossword.

I met the bloke who invented crosswords today. I can't remember his name, it's P-something T-something

Best regards
Ian