

## Thanks are due to...

The 2015 Executive Committee comprising:

Chairman	Ian Coldrick
Vice Chairman	Viv Jones
Treasurer	Bob Jones
Secretary	John Richards-Jones
Events Manager	Bill Bain, succeeded by Steve Benbow
Welfare Officer	Barry Pugh
Musical director	Luned Jones
Assistant director	Adrian Morgan
Accompanist	Ann Bufton
Section leaders:	Barry Pugh (top tenor); David Morgan (second tenor); Derek Hope (baritone); Brian Like (bass)



# BUILTH MALE VOICE CHOIR

## Newsletter January 2016



## The AFTERGLOW

### Musical Variety

2015 proved to be another active year for the Choir, whose services were requested by a variety of people, organisations and charities.

Many of the events were concerts:

- To raise funds for the Brilley & Michaelchurch Parish who said "We are very conscious of the effort required for your members to even find our village, let alone make the journey to the village hall!"
- Marking St. David's Day in Builth with the Tongwynlais Temperance Band
- Raising £1800 in support of the Bracken Trust with Tintagel Orpheus Choir and the Builth Wells Ladies Choir in Llandrindod
- Celebrating a military occasion at Sennybridge for the Officer Training Corps
- In aid of the Wyeside Arts Centre in Builth
- Commemorating the 70th anniversary of VE Day with the Royal British Legion at Alpha Church accompanied by pupils of Builth Wells Primary School and Llanellwedd Primary School
- Performing at the Welsh National Remembrance Festival in Cardiff memorable occasion only marred by the lack of other choirs in attendance
- And appearing as usual at Christmas to entertain guests at the Lake Hotel in Llangammarch

Requests to participate in an increasing number of weddings took us to Llandefalle, Llangammarch, Builth, Brecon Cathedral, Burghill, Peterstone Court and at the 11<sup>th</sup> Century church at Llanstephan where the military bridegroom came accompanied by six sword-bearing officers.



We also entertained hotel guests in both the Metropole and Glen Usk hotels in Llandrindod Wells particularly the Dutch party at the 'Met' who tentatively invited us to visit them in the Netherlands.

A memorable occasion was a visit to the Brecon showground where the historic multi-VC winning battle of Rorkes Drift was remembered with many red uniforms and white helmets on display.

We also enjoyed a very muddy time at the Kington Agricultural Show and sang carols in the pouring rain in Builth.

### Some key people

The Choir was sad to say goodbye to the stalwart Bill Bain who had served many years in the capacity of Secretary and Events Manager.



The President, Jim Evans, awarded Bill life membership of the Choir in recognition of the outstanding contribution he had made and the Chairman, Ian Coldrick presented him with a cut glass decanter and a bottle of fine malt whiskey to enjoy in his new home in Wiltshire. Luckily for us Bill is still able to occasionally join us and it is always good to see him.

On a sad note we attended the funeral of John Gwynfor Davies whose widow said "John would have been so pleased and proud, many of his happiest hours were spent with you all".

However we were pleased to welcome new members Aled Davis, Rhys Davis and Stuart Powell.

### Action-packed in Cornwall

The pinnacle of the year has to be recorded as the Choir's participation in the Cornwall International Choral Festival in May. With 70 choirs involved from 13 different countries 50 concerts were held at 40 locations in the county.

We were one of three choirs representing Wales and performed at five concerts travelling from the Trebah Gardens – to Launceston Methodist Church – to Caerhays Castle – to St. Elwyn's in Hayle – and on to the Tate Gallery in St. Ives. Finally we were honoured to perform at the prestigious Final International Gala Concert in Truro where we appeared alongside the Basingstoke Male Voice Choir, the Sons of LaFayette, Dagilelis, St Petersburg Boys' Choir and the Trelawny Male Choir.

Two coaches were required to take the forty strong choir and over forty supporters to venues, on tortuous journeys through the lanes and byways of Cornwall returning each night to the hotel base in Newquay.



### And the support continues

The Supporters Group which was established in 2014 continued its sterling efforts and during the year

- Assisted at the St. David's Day Concert by providing the raffle, decorating the hall with daffodils and door stewarding
- Organised a leisurely walk around Builth golf course and the Rhosferig area in July, which was followed by a very enjoyable evening of food and games of Tippett at Builth Golf Club
- Organise a bingo and quiz night in October featuring Ray Morgan
- Provided the Christmas Raffle at the Choir's Social Evening

Starting the new year a special afternoon tea at Foyles Restaurant in Glasbury was enjoyed.

The Supporters Group is chaired by Megan Jones, with Trish Davies as treasurer. Its aim is not primarily to make money but to provide a social link for vice-presidents, ex members, wives and widows etc. More members are always welcome, email [meg.jones143@gmail.com](mailto:meg.jones143@gmail.com)