

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR (COR MEIBION PORTHCAWL)

England & Wales · Charity number 1195139

Details

Other names PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR, COR MEIBION PORTHCAWL

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 2021-07-12

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address 185 West Road
Nottage
Porthcawl
CF36 3RT

Phone 07902333559

Email noel.williams185@btinternet.com

Website www.porthcawlmaleschoir.co.uk

Activities

Objects: 1. TO ADVANCE, IMPROVE, DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC EDUCATION IN, AND APPRECIATION OF, THE ART AND SCIENCE OF MUSIC IN ALL ITS ASPECTS BY ANY MEANS THE TRUSTEES SEE FIT, INCLUDING THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC CONCERTS AND RECITALS.

Activities: To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bridgend

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-12-31	£47,012	£35,211	-	-
2024-12-31	£29,078	£26,013	-	-
2023-12-31	£30,408	£27,982	-	-
2022-12-31	£39,650	£44,651	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Adrian Powis		2022-03-18
Gareth Lewis		2022-03-18
Gerwyn James		2025-03-14
Huw Jones		2026-03-03
Jon Machin		2021-07-12
MARILYN GRETA HILL		2021-07-12
Mark Smith		2022-03-18
Matthew Bates		2026-03-03
Noel Williams		2021-07-12
Robert Cotter		2022-03-18
Thomas Jordan		2026-03-03

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR (COR MEIBION PORTHCAWL)

England & Wales - Charity number 1195139

Accounts

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held at RC Church
Friday 14 March 2025

	Action
<p>1 Present: Adrian Powis (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Rob Cotter, Viv Griffiths, Gareth Lewis, Jon Machin, Mark Smith, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Roy Bowen, Mike Griffiths, Lawrence Hopkins, John Mathias, Stuart Phillips, John Wright.</p> <p>Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Stan Hill, Ian Jacka, Roy Jeynes, John Pearman, Lyn Sullivan, Glenn White, Mike Williams.</p> <p>Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Tony Kavanagh, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans.</p> <p>Non-voting attendees: Laura Deenik, Matthew Bates, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan.</p> <p>2 Apologies: Chris Davies, Malcolm Evans, Martin Griffiths, Colin Gronow, David Jones, Huw Jones, John Jones, Owain Jones, Brian Raybould, Gwyn Richards, Phil Rowe, Daryl Strong, Phil Tew, Ian Thomas.</p> <p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 9 February 2024 Proposed: Jon Machin Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 14 March 2025 Proposed: Chris Evans Seconded: Mike Francis</p> <p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: one matter arose from the minutes of the previous AGM and this has been actioned. This related to contacting the Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.</p> <p>5 Notices of motion: No notices of motion were submitted.</p> <p>6 Chairman's Report: Copied from prepared script.</p> <p>Welcome everyone to our AGM. 2024 was certainly a busy and eventful year for our Choir and my first year as Chairman trying to fill the boots of our previous Chairman John Pearman. I want to begin by thanking everyone for the fantastic support I have had. I'm very fortunate to have an amazing committee, a good committee always makes a Chairman's role so much easier. Noel does a fantastic job working tirelessly as Secretary, always on the ball with his minutes and</p>	

Marilyn works extremely hard in her role as Treasurer which isn't an easy role when you consider our current economic climate. A big shout out to Mark our Concert Secretary for all his hard work and Ian for all he does with our social media and setting up our new web site.

Ian Williams: We have close to 950 followers on Facebook and 37,500 views in the last 28 days.

But every member of the committee contributes and I thank you all for giving up your time to help with the management of the choir.

I would also like to thank a number of our long serving Choir members who have supported me with their experience, in particular Roy, Stuart, Viv, John and Howard amongst others.

We currently have 51 members.

Last year we sadly lost Fred Draper in January and Kelvin Isaac in May and of course we are currently mourning the loss of another Choir stalwart in Phil Davies.

But we continue to grow our ranks with a number of new members joining throughout the year.

Gwyn Richards, Huw Jones, Matthew Bates, Steve Gibbins, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan and Martin Griffiths.

Like I said 2024 has been a very busy year and we have had to explore different ways of raising funds while our main concert venue, The Pavilion is still out of action.

We started the year at the end of January having been invited to sing at All Saints Church to celebrate 100 years of the British Legion.

On the 10th February we were asked to sing at The Seagull prior to the England v Wales six nations game, a fun afternoon out for us all.

March 1st saw us perform our St David's Day concert at All Saints which was a real success. We also did our annual performance with the children at Porthcawl Primary School.

On Sunday 28th April, which as I remember was a beautiful sunny spring day, we sang for a small crowd from the Porthcawl Veterans Hub at the Bowling Green, Griffin Park.

We were asked to perform at Porthcawl Rugby Club's Sponsors Day and as usual we entertained their guests; we continue to have a fantastic relationship with the rugby club and are extremely grateful of the support they give us and we continue to use their facilities for our committee meetings.

On 16th May we were invited by The Coastwatch to sing at All Saints Church.

Throughout May, every Wednesday evening, a quiz night and raffle were held at the Jolly Sailor, this proved to be very beneficial financially to us and we are hoping to replicate this again this year. These new types of events really help to boost our funds.

May also saw us moving to our new home at the Catholic Church Hall and whilst we will be eternally grateful to Arlington Road Church circumstances were such, we needed to find a new practice venue to ensure the future of the Choir. We looked at a number of options but agreed on the Catholic Church and I must say they have been absolutely fantastic, giving us our own little area for our equipment and music and space upstairs for uniform storage. I must say we have struck up a great working relationship with them.

We had a very successful social evening at the Grove Golf Club on Saturday 15th June but this was tinged with sadness as it was an event that had been originally organised by Kelvin.

July was quite a busy month that saw us singing as usual on The Green in Newton for the annual Church Fayre, followed I'm sure with copious amounts of beer in the Jolly Sailor

We also sang at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club

We were also asked to sing at the funeral of Gunter Ehresmann in Chepstow, whilst we try to restrict our performances at funerals to local ones, we agreed and it turned out to be very different from most traditional funerals being more of a celebration of his life. Marcus his son arranged a coach for us and afterwards the celebration of Gunter's life continued with food and beverages at The Boat Inn.

Our Ladies Section arranged a coach trip to Stratford upon Avon, this was a huge success as usual and everyone had really enjoyable day.

I must say how grateful we are for all the ladies support, not only do they support us at all our concerts with raffles and ticket sales etc they do so much more raising money to support us with things like our ties and trousers etc.

If any other ladies would like to join our Ladies Section, they would be more than welcome.

In August we were asked to sing at a 85th Birthday garden party at Kittiwake Close, Nottage, we were

so well received and it was a really nice afternoon. It was so warm we decided to buy baseball caps for choristers.

September was again quite a busy month with our Annual Concert again being held at All Saints Church due to the out of action Pavilion. It was an exceptional evening as usual and our guest artist Rhiannon Herridge was really well received, again we performed to a sell-out audience.

September also saw the Elvis Festival at the Hi-Tide and although the venue this time wasn't as suitable for us as previous years an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

In October we sang at Pencoed Rugby Club for the Twinning Society, where we were received very well and gained some contacts in France.

We were also asked to sing for The Welsh Guards Veterans at Cosy Corner. A first for the choir at this new outdoor venue but one that proved very successful and a future venue we may well use again.

We also sang at the Civic Service for the new Mayor of Porthcawl, Cllr Jeff Perren at All Saints Church.

November saw us sing as usual at the Annual Remembrance Day service at All Saints Church where a poppy wreath was laid on behalf of the choir by Colin Gronow an ex-para trooper.

December saw the year quickly drawing to a close but as usual it was an extremely busy time for the choir. We began with performances at The Prince Wales and The Globe pubs. We also performed at the RNLI Christmas concert. Due to adverse weather our Annual Christmas Concert was cancelled.

We also did our usual performance for The Stroke Club at Grove Golf Club. We sang at The Masonic Care Home, another annual Christmas event. This year for the first time we did a Concert in The Catholic Church, Our Lady Star of the Sea for our new friends there.

To finish up the Christmas events a number of us did a wet session of carols and Christmas songs at the Jolly Sailor as a thank you for all their support.

We have also sang at numerous weddings and funerals throughout the year.

All in all, a very busy but successful year.

Lots of different types of events, and we continue to try to find enjoyable, unique events such as the event on Paddington station.

A big part of our enjoyment as a Choir is touring, unfortunately due to lack of interest we didn't tour last year.

But I'm very grateful to Howard and Chris for all the work they have put in to arrange our up-and-coming tour to Wexford.

We still have some availability if anyone else or friends and family would like to join us.

Finally, I would like to give a huge thanks to our Musical Team

I believe Alec has done wonders with us over the last year, even getting us to sing pieces such as Bohemian Rhapsody, which I believe was shelved at one point proving too difficult in the past.

We are very fortunate to have extremely talented accompanists in Richard and Laura and of course our stand in MD Paul, to whom we are extremely grateful for being able to take us on the occasions Alec hasn't been available.

We are very blessed to have such a talented musical team.

A big thank you to the guys who move and set up all of our equipment for events, thank you all for your hard work.

And to Chris for ensuring no one ever gets away without buying a raffle ticket.

Can I conclude by just thanking everyone for the friendship, commitment and sense of comradeship you bring to the Choir.

Events for 2025 are already gaining momentum with lots of exciting things being organised.

I wish you all well and look forward to all we do together over the coming year.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year, the same as the previous year. Choristers make this possible and it has been a pleasure to stand in front of them. Thanks also to the Musical Team, Laura who is here tonight, Richard and Paul. Thanks to the committee for their support and help throughout the year. The friendship of the choir has been very important. All are so friendly and thanks for the year and now looking forward to this year.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 were also distributed.

I'm pleased to present our annual accounts for 2024.

INCOME: 49 paid up members and donations from 2 life members. The patron's donation was from Eynon with other patrons being in the annual concert figures. The gift aid of £3,006.80 for 2.5 years. Thank you to some of our ladies who did a month's bucket collection at the Jolly Sailor quiz night which raised £1,170. The large amount for funerals was made up of donations from Fred Drapers widow Sally, Kelvin Isaac's family, Marcus's payment included the bus to Chepstow and the Fergie family. Our annual concert income was £5,781.25 even with reduced fees to our advertisers and supporters and reduced ticket prices this was a good outcome. We also did well with our concerts.

EXPENDITURE: We are very lucky to have our new home at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Total rent paid £2,940 which included two extra months to Arlington Church before we left.

We now as you know have a payment machine and the charges came to £24.20 this being 1.69% of each transaction. The cost of our musical team was £11,415, new equipment included £166.80 for the new card machine. After outgoings our annual concert raised £3,687.07. You all had new trousers and the new members new jumpers. We gave a donation of £500 to Velindre Cancer Centre. A good financial year all round with C/A finishing on £10,132.77.

Our Deposit account earned £61.78 in interest and finished on £4,320.63.

Our Tour account added £1,845.40 from the raffle and finished at £7,766.15.

So, in total we hold £22,219.55 as at 31/12/2024.

My thanks to Chris and all those who have collected money through the year. I feel the choir is in a strong financial position to go forward into 2025., and thanks to our wonderful committee for their help and advice.

Thanks, and praise to our Ladies Section who gave us £1,129.50 towards trousers and our new web site. My thoughts and prayers go to Kelvin Isaac who was our auditor, and to Philip Tew who kindly took on the job half way into the year, I am so grateful to him.

For the year ahead I propose subscriptions be increased by £10 from £125 to £135 this is £2.60 per week and I see as excellent value. Also an increase of £5 per practice for our musical director and accompanist. We have a quality team and I feel we need to show our appreciation.

The raffle I propose to keep splitting between the C/A and tour account. This will help build the tour account but help with the C/A if work starts to dry up in the year ahead.

On the notice board are our 2 account details, please use the correct account when transferring money. New members can pay by standing order monthly if they wish, if they are tax payers, please can they sign a gift aid declaration for us to claim back an extra 25%.

And to finish off thank you all for PAYING SELLING BUYING and parting with your cash on time, but most of all putting up with a woman in a male choir.

Additional comments made during the presentation:

Treasurer: HMRC now make random requests for charity, to make a corporation tax return. This was completed by Noel Williams.

John Pearman: commented on the good work done to receive gift aid.

Viv Griffiths: thanks to Marilyn Hill, one special person.

Treasurer: asked the meeting to vote on the proposed increase to subscriptions and the payments to the musical team. A show of hand indicated unanimous support for the increases.

9 Auditors Report:

Phil Tew, the auditor had given his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. He had previously spoken to the Chairman and Secretary to express the high standard of work from the Treasurer, Marilyn Hill. He commented on how well the accounts had been maintained and prepared noting everything was in order.

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Adrian Powis	John Pearman	Phil Tew
Vice Chairman	John Mathias	Roy Bowen	Glenn White
Secretary	Noel Williams	John Pearman	Glenn White
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	Phil Tew	John Pearman
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	Rob Cotter	Lyn Sullivan
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Gareth Lewis	Daryl Strong
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Mike Williams	Chris Davies
<u>Section Leaders</u>			
Top Tenor	Gerwyn James	Viv Griffiths	Howard Evans
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	Glenn White	Mark Smith
Baritone	Chris Davies	John Pearman	Stan Hill
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Stuart Phillips	Mike Griffiths

Mike Griffiths was prepared to continue as Social Secretary helping for social events but did not wish to be on the committee.

Retiring and new members were respectively thanked and welcomed.

Chairman: we will have a block vote. This duly took place and all were unanimously voted as per the nominations list.

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

11 Any Other Business:

No items for discussion.

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Noel Williams: the Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the date. On this basis the AGM is planned for 20 February 2026.

Noel Williams – Secretary

NW

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2025

2024	CURRENT ACCOUNT	2025	2025	
	INCOME			
	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS			
£6,120.50	50 No. @ £135.00	£6,725.25	£6,725.25	
£250.00	Life Members 2 No.	£270.00	£270.00	
	Ireland Tour wrong account	£3,650.00		
£250.00	Patrons (inc in annual concert 2025)			
£1,260.58	Raffle	£1,271.80		
£3,006.88	Gift Aid	£1,512.85		
£3,584.00	Social Events	£3,242.00		
£1,170.00	Pub Quiz	£832.00		
£450.00	Weddings	£1,450.00		
£2,274.00	Funerals	£1,139.00		
£567.70	Uniforms	£328.60		
£1,166.00	Calendars 2024 / 2025 CD sales	£1,520.00		
	Legacy	£10,000.00		
	Donations	£756.00	£25,702.25	
£5,781.25	Annual Concert Sept 2025	£6,152.50		
	Carol service concert	£1,294.45		
	R M B I (2 years) Concert	£300.00		
£925.06	St Davids Day 2024/ Porthcawl Swim	£600.00		
£800.00	Vetrans 200.00 High Sheriff 200.00	£400.00		
£400.00	Cardiff Uni 1300.00 Jolly Sailor 500.00	£1,800.00		
£250.00	Cancer concert	£2,759.00		
£100.00	Stroke club 100.00 Elvis concert 167.23	£267.23		
£372.00	Globe xmas concert	£341.00		
350	All Saints 2024	£400.00	£14,314.18	
£29,077.97		TOTAL INCOME		£47,011.68
	EXPENDITURE			
£1,400.00	Our Lady Star of the Sea -Rent	£2,400.00	£2,400.00	
£1,540.00	Arlington Church Rental			
	SUBSCRIPTIONS TO AFFILLIATED BODIES			
£40.00	W.M.A.C.	£40.00		
£313.00	Making Music	£325.00	£365.00	
£132.58	Web Site Fees	£432.40		
£155.00	Insurance	£155.00		
£24.20	Sum up machine charges (payment machine)	£137.19	£724.59	
	MUSICAL DIRECTORS & ACCOMPANISTS			
£6,160.00	Musical Director	£6,590.00		
£500.00	Accompanist's Agnes	£200.00		
£2,745.00	Accompanist's Mr. Richard Davis	£2,980.00		

£1,845.00	Accompanist's Mrs Laura Deenick	£2,535.00	
£165.00	Conductor Mr Paul Deenick	£405.00	£12,710.00

2024	CURRENT ACCOUNT (Cont'd)	2025	2025
	<u>EXPENDITURE (Cont'd)</u>		
£917.91	Purchase of Sheet Music	£515.94	
£262.86	New Equipment	295.98	
£2,831.50	Social Events	£2,966.75	
£1,223.16	Performed Concerts	£5,111.00	
2214.18	Annual Concert Sept 2024	£2,091.60	
£2,017.30	Uniforms	£503.40	
£250.00	D. Evans Scholarship Award	£250.00	
£453.40	Harris Printers	£743.25	
	Consumables	£149.04	
£28.10	Postage		
	C.D recording	£2,150.49	
	Food for recording day	£400.00	
	Account transfers – Tour account	£3,650.00	
	<u>SUNDRIES</u>		
	Donation RNLI	£150.00	
£100.00	Church floor repair		
£500.00	Donation Velindre Cancer Hospital		
£100.00	Donation Fred Funeral		
£45.00	Flowers		
£50.00	Audit present	£34.00	£19,011.45
			£35,211.04
£26,013.19	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£35,211.04
	<u>CURRENT ACCOUNT</u>		

	Balance brought forward 31st December 2024	£10,132.77	
	ADD Income for 2025	£47,011.68	
			£57,144.45
	LESS Expenditure for 2025	£35,211.04	
			£21,933.41
		TO SUMMARY	£21,933.41

2024			2025
	DEPOSIT ACCOUNT		
	Balance as at 31st December 2024		£4,320.63
	interest year 2025	£48.25	£48.25
			£4,368.88
		TO SUMMARY	£4,368.88
2024	TOUR FUND ACCOUNT		2025
	INCOME		
£1,845.40	Choir Raffle	£1,524.30	
	Ireland Tour	£28,977.00	
	Quiz	£49.00	
	Transfer from C/A	£3,650.00	£34,200.30
£28,980.67		TOTAL INCOME	£34,200.30
	EXPENDITURE		
	Quiz transfer	£49.00	
	Ireland Tour	£37,506.00	£37,555.00
£30,354.17		TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£37,555.00

TOUR FUND ACCOUNT			
Balance forward from 31st Dec 2024	£7,766.15		
ADD Income for 2025	£34,200.30		
		£41,966.45	
LESS Expenditure for 2025	£37,555.00	£4,411.45	
			TO SUMMARY
			£4,411.45
SUMMARY			
CURRENT ACCOUNT			£21,933.41
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT			£4,368.88
TOUR FUND ACCOUNT			£4,411.45
			TOTAL FUNDS IN HAND as at 31st DECEMBER 2025
			£30,713.74

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2025 (Cont'd)

BANK RECONCILIATION			
CURRENT ACCOUNT			
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2025	£22,133.41		
Less Unpresented Cheques			
Chq 03469 Richard Davis	£200.00		
		£200.00	£21,933.41
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT			
Bank statement 31 st December 2025		£4,368.88	£4,368.88
TOUR FUND ACCOUNT			
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2025		£4,411.45	£4,411.45
			£30,713.74
BANK RECONCILIATION 31st DECEMBER 2025			
TREASURER Mrs MARILYN Hill <i>M S Hill</i>			
Auditor	<i>[Signature]</i>		
Date	<i>26/01/2026</i>		

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held at RC Church
Friday 14 March 2025

	Action
<p>1 Present: Adrian Powis (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Rob Cotter, Viv Griffiths, Gareth Lewis, Jon Machin, Mark Smith, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Roy Bowen, Mike Griffiths, Lawrence Hopkins, John Mathias, Stuart Phillips, John Wright.</p> <p>Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Stan Hill, Ian Jacka, Roy Jeynes, John Pearman, Lyn Sullivan, Glenn White, Mike Williams.</p> <p>Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Tony Kavanagh, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans.</p> <p>Non-voting attendees: Laura Deenik, Matthew Bates, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan.</p> <p>2 Apologies: Chris Davies, Malcolm Evans, Martin Griffiths, Colin Gronow, David Jones, Huw Jones, John Jones, Owain Jones, Brian Raybould, Gwyn Richards, Phil Rowe, Daryl Strong, Phil Tew, Ian Thomas.</p> <p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 9 February 2024 Proposed: Jon Machin Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 14 March 2025 Proposed: Chris Evans Seconded: Mike Francis</p> <p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: one matter arose from the minutes of the previous AGM and this has been actioned. This related to contacting the Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.</p> <p>5 Notices of motion: No notices of motion were submitted.</p> <p>6 Chairman's Report: Copied from prepared script.</p> <p>Welcome everyone to our AGM. 2024 was certainly a busy and eventful year for our Choir and my first year as Chairman trying to fill the boots of our previous Chairman John Pearman. I want to begin by thanking everyone for the fantastic support I have had. I'm very fortunate to have an amazing committee, a good committee always makes a Chairman's role so much easier. Noel does a fantastic job working tirelessly as Secretary, always on the ball with his minutes and</p>	

Marilyn works extremely hard in her role as Treasurer which isn't an easy role when you consider our current economic climate. A big shout out to Mark our Concert Secretary for all his hard work and Ian for all he does with our social media and setting up our new web site.

Ian Williams: We have close to 950 followers on Facebook and 37,500 views in the last 28 days.

But every member of the committee contributes and I thank you all for giving up your time to help with the management of the choir.

I would also like to thank a number of our long serving Choir members who have supported me with their experience, in particular Roy, Stuart, Viv, John and Howard amongst others.

We currently have 51 members.

Last year we sadly lost Fred Draper in January and Kelvin Isaac in May and of course we are currently mourning the loss of another Choir stalwart in Phil Davies.

But we continue to grow our ranks with a number of new members joining throughout the year.

Gwyn Richards, Huw Jones, Matthew Bates, Steve Gibbins, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan and Martin Griffiths.

Like I said 2024 has been a very busy year and we have had to explore different ways of raising funds while our main concert venue, The Pavilion is still out of action.

We started the year at the end of January having been invited to sing at All Saints Church to celebrate 100 years of the British Legion.

On the 10th February we were asked to sing at The Seagull prior to the England v Wales six nations game, a fun afternoon out for us all.

March 1st saw us perform our St David's Day concert at All Saints which was a real success. We also did our annual performance with the children at Porthcawl Primary School.

On Sunday 28th April, which as I remember was a beautiful sunny spring day, we sang for a small crowd from the Porthcawl Veterans Hub at the Bowling Green, Griffin Park.

We were asked to perform at Porthcawl Rugby Club's Sponsors Day and as usual we entertained their guests; we continue to have a fantastic relationship with the rugby club and are extremely grateful of the support they give us and we continue to use their facilities for our committee meetings.

On 16th May we were invited by The Coastwatch to sing at All Saints Church.

Throughout May, every Wednesday evening, a quiz night and raffle were held at the Jolly Sailor, this proved to be very beneficial financially to us and we are hoping to replicate this again this year. These new types of events really help to boost our funds.

May also saw us moving to our new home at the Catholic Church Hall and whilst we will be eternally grateful to Arlington Road Church circumstances were such, we needed to find a new practice venue to ensure the future of the Choir. We looked at a number of options but agreed on the Catholic Church and I must say they have been absolutely fantastic, giving us our own little area for our equipment and music and space upstairs for uniform storage. I must say we have struck up a great working relationship with them.

We had a very successful social evening at the Grove Golf Club on Saturday 15th June but this was tinged with sadness as it was an event that had been originally organised by Kelvin.

July was quite a busy month that saw us singing as usual on The Green in Newton for the annual Church Fayre, followed I'm sure with copious amounts of beer in the Jolly Sailor

We also sang at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club

We were also asked to sing at the funeral of Gunter Ehresmann in Chepstow, whilst we try to restrict our performances at funerals to local ones, we agreed and it turned out to be very different from most traditional funerals being more of a celebration of his life. Marcus his son arranged a coach for us and afterwards the celebration of Gunter's life continued with food and beverages at The Boat Inn.

Our Ladies Section arranged a coach trip to Stratford upon Avon, this was a huge success as usual and everyone had really enjoyable day.

I must say how grateful we are for all the ladies support, not only do they support us at all our concerts with raffles and ticket sales etc they do so much more raising money to support us with things like our ties and trousers etc.

If any other ladies would like to join our Ladies Section, they would be more than welcome.

In August we were asked to sing at a 85th Birthday garden party at Kittiwake Close, Nottage, we were

so well received and it was a really nice afternoon. It was so warm we decided to buy baseball caps for choristers.

September was again quite a busy month with our Annual Concert again being held at All Saints Church due to the out of action Pavilion. It was an exceptional evening as usual and our guest artist Rhiannon Herridge was really well received, again we performed to a sell-out audience.

September also saw the Elvis Festival at the Hi-Tide and although the venue this time wasn't as suitable for us as previous years an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

In October we sang at Pencoed Rugby Club for the Twinning Society, where we were received very well and gained some contacts in France.

We were also asked to sing for The Welsh Guards Veterans at Cosy Corner. A first for the choir at this new outdoor venue but one that proved very successful and a future venue we may well use again.

We also sang at the Civic Service for the new Mayor of Porthcawl, Cllr Jeff Perren at All Saints Church.

November saw us sing as usual at the Annual Remembrance Day service at All Saints Church where a poppy wreath was laid on behalf of the choir by Colin Gronow an ex-para trooper.

December saw the year quickly drawing to a close but as usual it was an extremely busy time for the choir. We began with performances at The Prince Wales and The Globe pubs. We also performed at the RNLI Christmas concert. Due to adverse weather our Annual Christmas Concert was cancelled.

We also did our usual performance for The Stroke Club at Grove Golf Club. We sang at The Masonic Care Home, another annual Christmas event. This year for the first time we did a Concert in The Catholic Church, Our Lady Star of the Sea for our new friends there.

To finish up the Christmas events a number of us did a wet session of carols and Christmas songs at the Jolly Sailor as a thank you for all their support.

We have also sang at numerous weddings and funerals throughout the year.

All in all, a very busy but successful year.

Lots of different types of events, and we continue to try to find enjoyable, unique events such as the event on Paddington station.

A big part of our enjoyment as a Choir is touring, unfortunately due to lack of interest we didn't tour last year.

But I'm very grateful to Howard and Chris for all the work they have put in to arrange our up-and-coming tour to Wexford.

We still have some availability if anyone else or friends and family would like to join us.

Finally, I would like to give a huge thanks to our Musical Team

I believe Alec has done wonders with us over the last year, even getting us to sing pieces such as Bohemian Rhapsody, which I believe was shelved at one point proving too difficult in the past.

We are very fortunate to have extremely talented accompanists in Richard and Laura and of course our stand in MD Paul, to whom we are extremely grateful for being able to take us on the occasions Alec hasn't been available.

We are very blessed to have such a talented musical team.

A big thank you to the guys who move and set up all of our equipment for events, thank you all for your hard work.

And to Chris for ensuring no one ever gets away without buying a raffle ticket.

Can I conclude by just thanking everyone for the friendship, commitment and sense of comradeship you bring to the Choir.

Events for 2025 are already gaining momentum with lots of exciting things being organised.

I wish you all well and look forward to all we do together over the coming year.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year, the same as the previous year. Choristers make this possible and it has been a pleasure to stand in front of them. Thanks also to the Musical Team, Laura who is here tonight, Richard and Paul. Thanks to the committee for their support and help throughout the year. The friendship of the choir has been very important. All are so friendly and thanks for the year and now looking forward to this year.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 were also distributed.

I'm pleased to present our annual accounts for 2024.

INCOME: 49 paid up members and donations from 2 life members. The patron's donation was from Eynon with other patrons being in the annual concert figures. The gift aid of £3,006.80 for 2.5 years. Thank you to some of our ladies who did a month's bucket collection at the Jolly Sailor quiz night which raised £1,170. The large amount for funerals was made up of donations from Fred Drapers widow Sally, Kelvin Isaac's family, Marcus's payment included the bus to Chepstow and the Fergie family. Our annual concert income was £5,781.25 even with reduced fees to our advertisers and supporters and reduced ticket prices this was a good outcome. We also did well with our concerts.

EXPENDITURE: We are very lucky to have our new home at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Total rent paid £2,940 which included two extra months to Arlington Church before we left.

We now as you know have a payment machine and the charges came to £24.20 this being 1.69% of each transaction. The cost of our musical team was £11,415, new equipment included £166.80 for the new card machine. After outgoings our annual concert raised £3,687.07. You all had new trousers and the new members new jumpers. We gave a donation of £500 to Velindre Cancer Centre. A good financial year all round with C/A finishing on £10,132.77.

Our Deposit account earned £61.78 in interest and finished on £4,320.63.

Our Tour account added £1,845.40 from the raffle and finished at £7,766.15.

So, in total we hold £22,219.55 as at 31/12/2024.

My thanks to Chris and all those who have collected money through the year. I feel the choir is in a strong financial position to go forward into 2025., and thanks to our wonderful committee for their help and advice.

Thanks, and praise to our Ladies Section who gave us £1,129.50 towards trousers and our new web site. My thoughts and prayers go to Kelvin Isaac who was our auditor, and to Philip Tew who kindly took on the job half way into the year, I am so grateful to him.

For the year ahead I propose subscriptions be increased by £10 from £125 to £135 this is £2.60 per week and I see as excellent value. Also an increase of £5 per practice for our musical director and accompanist. We have a quality team and I feel we need to show our appreciation.

The raffle I propose to keep splitting between the C/A and tour account. This will help build the tour account but help with the C/A if work starts to dry up in the year ahead.

On the notice board are our 2 account details, please use the correct account when transferring money. New members can pay by standing order monthly if they wish, if they are tax payers, please can they sign a gift aid declaration for us to claim back an extra 25%.

And to finish off thank you all for PAYING SELLING BUYING and parting with your cash on time, but most of all putting up with a woman in a male choir.

Additional comments made during the presentation:

Treasurer: HMRC now make random requests for charity, to make a corporation tax return. This was completed by Noel Williams.

John Pearman: commented on the good work done to receive gift aid.

Viv Griffiths: thanks to Marilyn Hill, one special person.

Treasurer: asked the meeting to vote on the proposed increase to subscriptions and the payments to the musical team. A show of hand indicated unanimous support for the increases.

9 Auditors Report:

Phil Tew, the auditor had given his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. He had previously spoken to the Chairman and Secretary to express the high standard of work from the Treasurer, Marilyn Hill. He commented on how well the accounts had been maintained and prepared noting everything was in order.

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Adrian Powis	John Pearman	Phil Tew
Vice Chairman	John Mathias	Roy Bowen	Glenn White
Secretary	Noel Williams	John Pearman	Glenn White
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	Phil Tew	John Pearman
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	Rob Cotter	Lyn Sullivan
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Gareth Lewis	Daryl Strong
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Mike Williams	Chris Davies
<u>Section Leaders</u>			
Top Tenor	Gerwyn James	Viv Griffiths	Howard Evans
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	Glenn White	Mark Smith
Baritone	Chris Davies	John Pearman	Stan Hill
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Stuart Phillips	Mike Griffiths

Mike Griffiths was prepared to continue as Social Secretary helping for social events but did not wish to be on the committee.

Retiring and new members were respectively thanked and welcomed.

Chairman: we will have a block vote. This duly took place and all were unanimously voted as per the nominations list.

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

11 Any Other Business:

No items for discussion.

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Noel Williams: the Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the date. On this basis the AGM is planned for 20 February 2026.

Noel Williams – Secretary

NW

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR (COR MEIBION PORTHCAWL)

England & Wales - Charity number 1195139

Accounts



**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held at RC Church
Friday 14 March 2025**

	Action
<p>1 Present: Adrian Powis (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Rob Cotter, Viv Griffiths, Gareth Lewis, Jon Machin, Mark Smith, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Roy Bowen, Mike Griffiths, Lawrence Hopkins, John Mathias, Stuart Phillips, John Wright.</p> <p>Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Stan Hill, Ian Jacka, Roy Jeynes, John Pearman, Lyn Sullivan, Glenn White, Mike Williams.</p> <p>Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Tony Kavanagh, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans.</p> <p>Non-voting attendees: Laura Deenik, Matthew Bates, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan.</p>	
<p>2 Apologies: Chris Davies, Malcolm Evans, Martin Griffiths, Colin Gronow, David Jones, Huw Jones, John Jones, Owain Jones, Brian Raybould, Gwyn Richards, Phil Rowe, Daryl Strong, Phil Tew, Ian Thomas.</p>	
<p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 9 February 2024 Proposed: Jon Machin Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 14 March 2025 Proposed: Chris Evans Seconded: Mike Francis</p>	
<p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: one matter arose from the minutes of the previous AGM and this has been actioned. This related to contacting the Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.</p>	
<p>5 Notices of motion: No notices of motion were submitted.</p>	
<p>6 Chairman's Report: Copied from prepared script.</p> <p>Welcome everyone to our AGM. 2024 was certainly a busy and eventful year for our Choir and my first year as Chairman trying to fill the boots of our previous Chairman John Pearman. I want to begin by thanking everyone for the fantastic support I have had. I'm very fortunate to have an amazing committee, a good committee always makes a Chairman's role so much easier.</p>	

Noel does a fantastic job working tirelessly as Secretary, always on the ball with his minutes and Marilyn works extremely hard in her role as Treasurer which isn't an easy role when you consider our current economic climate. A big shout out to Mark our Concert Secretary for all his hard work and Ian for all he does with our social media and setting up our new web site.

Ian Williams: We have close to 950 followers on Facebook and 37,500 views in the last 28 days.

But every member of the committee contributes and I thank you all for giving up your time to help with the management of the choir.

I would also like to thank a number of our long serving Choir members who have supported me with their experience, in particular Roy, Stuart, Viv, John and Howard amongst others.

We currently have 51 members.

Last year we sadly lost Fred Draper in January and Kelvin Isaac in May and of course we are currently mourning the loss of another Choir stalwart in Phil Davies.

But we continue to grow our ranks with a number of new members joining throughout the year.

Gwyn Richards, Huw Jones, Matthew Bates, Steve Gibbins, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan and Martin Griffiths.

Like I said 2024 has been a very busy year and we have had to explore different ways of raising funds while our main concert venue, The Pavilion is still out of action.

We started the year at the end of January having been invited to sing at All Saints Church to celebrate 100 years of the British Legion.

On the 10th February we were asked to sing at The Seagull prior to the England v Wales six nations game, a fun afternoon out for us all.

March 1st saw us perform our St David's Day concert at All Saints which was a real success. We also did our annual performance with the children at Porthcawl Primary School.

On Sunday 28th April, which as I remember was a beautiful sunny spring day, we sang for a small crowd from the Porthcawl Veterans Hub at the Bowling Green, Griffin Park.

We were asked to perform at Porthcawl Rugby Club's Sponsors Day and as usual we entertained their guests; we continue to have a fantastic relationship with the rugby club and are extremely grateful of the support they give us and we continue to use their facilities for our committee meetings.

On 16th May we were invited by The Coastwatch to sing at All Saints Church.

Throughout May, every Wednesday evening, a quiz night and raffle were held at the Jolly Sailor, this proved to be very beneficial financially to us and we are hoping to replicate this again this year. These new types of events really help to boost our funds.

May also saw us moving to our new home at the Catholic Church Hall and whilst we will be eternally grateful to Arlington Road Church circumstances were such, we needed to find a new practice venue to ensure the future of the Choir. We looked at a number of options but agreed on the Catholic Church and I must say they have been absolutely fantastic, giving us our own little area for our equipment and music and space upstairs for uniform storage. I must say we have struck up a great working relationship with them.

We had a very successful social evening at the Grove Golf Club on Saturday 15th June but this was tinged with sadness as it was an event that had been originally organised by Kelvin.

July was quite a busy month that saw us singing as usual on The Green in Newton for the annual Church Fayre, followed I'm sure with copious amounts of beer in the Jolly Sailor

We also sang at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club

We were also asked to sing at the funeral of Gunter Ehresmann in Chepstow, whilst we try to restrict our performances at funerals to local ones, we agreed and it turned out to be very different from most traditional funerals being more of a celebration of his life. Marcus his son arranged a coach for us and afterwards the celebration of Gunter's life continued with food and beverages at The Boat Inn.

Our Ladies Section arranged a coach trip to Stratford upon Avon, this was a huge success as usual and everyone had really enjoyable day.

I must say how grateful we are for all the ladies support, not only do they support us at all our concerts with raffles and ticket sales etc they do so much more raising money to support us with things like our ties and trousers etc.

If any other ladies would like to join our Ladies Section, they would be more than welcome.

In August we were asked to sing at a 85th Birthday garden party at Kittiwake Close, Nottage, we were so well received and it was a really nice afternoon. It was so warm we decided to buy baseball caps for choristers.

September was again quite a busy month with our Annual Concert again being held at All Saints Church due to the out of action Pavilion. It was an exceptional evening as usual and our guest artist Rhiannon Herridge was really well received, again we performed to a sell-out audience.

September also saw the Elvis Festival at the Hi-Tide and although the venue this time wasn't as suitable for us as previous years an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

In October we sang at Pencoed Rugby Club for the Twinning Society, where we were received very well and gained some contacts In France.

We were also asked to sing for The Welsh Guards Veterans at Cosy Corner. A first for the choir at this new outdoor venue but one that proved very successful and a future venue we may well use again.

We also sang at the Civic Service for the new Mayor of Porthcawl, Cllr Jeff Perren at All Saints Church.

November saw us sing as usual at the Annual Remembrance Day service at All Saints Church where a poppy wreath was laid on behalf of the choir by Colin Gronow an ex-para trooper.

December saw the year quickly drawing to a close but as usual it was an extremely busy time for the choir. We began with performances at The Prince Wales and The Globe pubs. We also performed at the RNLI Christmas concert. Due to adverse weather our Annual Christmas Concert was cancelled.

We also did our usual performance for The Stroke Club at Grove Golf Club. We sang at The Masonic Care Home, another annual Christmas event. This year for the first time we did a Concert in The Catholic Church, Our Lady Star of the Sea for our new friends there.

To finish up the Christmas events a number of us did a wet session of carols and Christmas songs at the Jolly Sailor as a thank you for all their support.

We have also sang at numerous weddings and funerals throughout the year.

All in all, a very busy but successful year.

Lots of different types of events, and we continue to try to find enjoyable, unique events such as the event on Paddington station.

A big part of our enjoyment as a Choir is touring, unfortunately due to lack of interest we didn't tour last year.

But I'm very grateful to Howard and Chris for all the work they have put in to arrange our up-and-coming tour to Wexford.

We still have some availability if anyone else or friends and family would like to join us.

Finally, I would like to give a huge thanks to our Musical Team

I believe Alec has done wonders with us over the last year, even getting us to sing pieces such as Bohemian Rhapsody, which I believe was shelved at one point proving too difficult in the past.

We are very fortunate to have extremely talented accompanists in Richard and Laura and of course our stand in MD Paul, to whom we are extremely grateful for being able to take us on the occasions Alec hasn't been available.

We are very blessed to have such a talented musical team.

A big thank you to the guys who move and set up all of our equipment for events, thank you all for your hard work.

And to Chris for ensuring no one ever gets away without buying a raffle ticket.

Can I conclude by just thanking everyone for the friendship, commitment and sense of comradery you bring to the Choir.

Events for 2025 are already gaining momentum with lots of exciting things being organised.

I wish you all well and look forward to all we do together over the coming year.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year, the same as the previous year. Choristers make this possible and it has been a pleasure to stand in front of them. Thanks also to the Musical Team, Laura who is here tonight, Richard and Paul. Thanks to the committee for their support and help throughout the year. The friendship of the choir has been very important. All are so friendly and thanks for the year and now looking forward to this year.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 were also distributed.

I'm pleased to present our annual accounts for 2024.

INCOME: 49 paid up members and donations from 2 life members. The patron's donation was from Eynon with other patrons being in the annual concert figures. The gift aid of £3,006.80 for 2.5 years.

Thank you to some of our ladies who did a month's bucket collection at the Jolly Sailor quiz night which raised £1,170. The large amount for funerals was made up of donations from Fred Drapers widow Sally, Kelvin Isaac's family, Marcus's payment included the bus to Chepstow and the Fergie family. Our annual concert income was £5,781.25 even with reduced fees to our advertisers and supporters and reduced ticket prices this was a good outcome. We also did well with our concerts.

EXPENDITURE: We are very lucky to have our new home at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Total rent paid £2,940 which included two extra months to Arlington Church before we left.

We now as you know have a payment machine and the charges came to £24.20 this being 1.69% of each transaction. The cost of our musical team was £11,415, new equipment included £166.80 for the new card machine. After outgoings our annual concert raised £3,687.07. You all had new trousers and the new members new jumpers. We gave a donation of £500 to Velindre Cancer Centre. A good financial year all round with C/A finishing on £10,132.77.

Our Deposit account earned £61.78 in interest and finished on £4,320.63.

Our Tour account added £1,845.40 from the raffle and finished at £7,766.15.

So, in total we hold £22,219.55 as at 31/12/2024.

My thanks to Chris and all those who have collected money through the year. I feel the choir is in a strong financial position to go forward into 2025., and thanks to our wonderful committee for their help and advice.

Thanks, and praise to our Ladies Section who gave us £1,129.50 towards trousers and our new web site. My thoughts and prayers go to Kelvin Isaac who was our auditor, and to Philip Tew who kindly took on the job half way into the year, I am so grateful to him.

For the year ahead I propose subscriptions be increased by £10 from £125 to £135 this is £2.60 per week and I see as excellent value. Also an increase of £5 per practice for our musical director and accompanist. We have a quality team and I feel we need to show our appreciation.

The raffle I propose to keep splitting between the C/A and tour account. This will help build the tour account but help with the C/A if work starts to dry up in the year ahead.

On the notice board are our 2 account details, please use the correct account when transferring money. New members can pay by standing order monthly if they wish, if they are tax payers, please can they sign a gift aid declaration for us to claim back an extra 25%.

And to finish off thank you all for PAYING SELLING BUYING and parting with your cash on time, but most of all putting up with a woman in a male choir.

Additional comments made during the presentation:

Treasurer: HMRC now make random requests for charity, to make a corporation tax return. This was completed by Noel Williams.

John Pearman: commented on the good work done to receive gift aid.

Viv Griffiths: thanks to Marilyn Hill, one special person.

Treasurer: asked the meeting to vote on the proposed increase to subscriptions and the payments to the musical team. A show of hand indicated unanimous support for the increases.

9 Auditors Report:

Phil Tew, the auditor had given his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. He had previously spoken to the Chairman and Secretary to express the high standard of work from the Treasurer, Marilyn Hill. He commented on how well the accounts had been maintained and prepared noting everything was in order.

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Chairman	Adrian Powis	John Pearman	Phil Tew
Vice Chairman	John Mathias	Roy Bowen	Glenn White
Secretary	Noel Williams	John Pearman	Glenn White
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	Phil Tew	John Pearman
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	Rob Cotter	Lyn Sullivan
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Gareth Lewis	Daryl Strong
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Mike Williams	Chris Davies
Section Leaders			
Top Tenor	Gerwyn James	Viv Griffiths	Howard Evans
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	Glenn White	Mark Smith
Baritone	Chris Davies	John Pearman	Stan Hill
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Stuart Phillips	Mike Griffiths

Mike Griffiths was prepared to continue as Social Secretary helping for social events but did not wish to be on the committee.

Retiring and new members were respectively thanked and welcomed.

Chairman: we will have a block vote. This duly took place and all were unanimously voted as per the nominations list.

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

11 Any Other Business:

No items for discussion.

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Noel Williams: the Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the date. On this basis the AGM is planned for 20 February 2026.



Noel Williams – Secretary

NW

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2024

2023	CURRENT ACCOUNT	2024	2024	
	INCOME			
	ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS			
£5,927.00	49 No. @ £125.00	£6,120.50	£6,120.50	
	DONATIONS			
£240.00	Life Members 2 No.	£250.00		
£1,008.25	Patrons	£250.00		
£1,072.31	Raffle	£1,260.58		
	Gift Aid	£3,006.88	£4,767.46	
£700.00	Social Events	£3,584.00		
	Jolly Sailor Quiz	£1,170.00	£4,754.00	
	Weddings	£450.00		
	Funerals	£2,274.00	£2,724.00	
£742.80	Uniforms	£567.70		
£688.00	Calendars & song books	£1,166.00	£1,733.70	
£517.40	Race night			
£1,635.00	christmas Dinner Dance			
£9,239.71	Annual Concert Sept 2024	£5,781.25		
£490.00	Defibulator			
£920.00	Account transfers- 2024 Concerts details below			
£7,227.07	St Davids Day	£925.06		
	Birthday 350 Vetrans 400(2026) wedding 50	£800.00		
	Coast Watch 250 Twinning 150	£400.00		
	Town civic 150.00 Legion 100	£250.00		
	Stroke club	£100.00		
	Globe xmas concert	£372.00		
	Seagull	£350.00	£8,978.31	
£30,407.54		TOTAL	INCOME	£29,077.97
	EXPENDITURE			
	Our Lady Star of the Sea	£1,400.00		
£2,560.00	Arlington Church Rental	£1,540.00	£2,940.00	
	SUBSCRIPTIONS TO AFFILLIATED BODIES			
£40.00	W.M.A.C.	£40.00		
£298.00	Making Music	£313.00		
£112.88	Web Site Fees	£132.58		
£151.00	Insurance	£155.00		
	Sun up machine charges (payment machine)	£24.20	£664.78	
	MUSICAL DIRECTORS & ACCOMPANISTS			
£6,140.00	Musical Director	£6,160.00		
	Accompanist's Mark Phillips £400 Agnes £100	£500.00		
£2,660.00	Accompanist's Mr. Richard Davis	£2,745.00		

£1,875.00	Accompanist's Mrs Laura Deenick	£1,845.00	
£180.00	Conductor Mr Paul Deenick	£165.00	
			£11,415.00

2023	CURRENT ACCOUNT (Cont'd)	2024	2024
	EXPENDITURE (Cont'd)		
£809.98	Purchase of Sheet Music	£917.91	
£300.00	New Equipment	262.86	£1,180.77
£1,480.00	Social Events	£2,831.50	
£1,953.66	Performed Concerts	£1,223.16	
2277.02	Annual Concert Sept 2024	£2,214.18	£6,268.84
£1,284.50	Uniforms	£2,017.30	
£250.00	D. Evans Scholarship Award	£250.00	
£1,493.50	Harris Printers	£453.40	
£60.00	Dinner refunds		
£60.00	Pact Testing		
£30.00	Postage	£28.10	£2,748.80
£47.40	British Legion		
£2,152.00	Account transfers		
	SUNDRIES		
£853.00	Defibulator		
£700.00	Ladies Section Bus		
	Church floor repair	£100.00	
£213.79	Donation Velindre Cancer Hospital	£500.00	
	Donation Fred Funeral	£100.00	
	Flowers	£45.00	
	Audit present	£50.00	£795.00
£27,981.73	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		£26,013.19
	COLLECTION		

	Balance brought forward 31st December 2023	£7,067.99	
	ADD Income for 2024	£29,077.97	
		£36,145.96	
	LESS Expenditure for 2024	£26,013.19	
		£10,132.77	
		TO SUMMARY	£10,132.77

2023			2024	
	DEPOSIT ACCOUNT			
	Balance as at 31st December 2023		£4,258.85	
	Interest for 2024			
	interest year 2024	£61.78	£61.78	
			£4,320.63	
		TO SUMMARY		£4,320.63
	TOUR FUND ACCOUNT			
	INCOME			
£1,714.69	Choir Raffle	£1,845.40		
£17,985.98	Llandudno			
£5,160.00	Annual Concert			
£200.00	Donations			
£3,920.00	Transfers			
	Account correction	£0.10		
	Calendars sales	£40.00	£1,885.50	
£28,980.67		TOTAL INCOME		£1,885.50
	EXPENDITURE			
£6,912.00	Annual tickets			
£21,674.17	Llandudno			
£1,768.00	Account transfers			
	2024 expenditure	NIL	NIL	
£30,354.17		TOTAL EXPENDITURE		NIL

COLLECTION			
Balance forward from 31st Dec 2023	£5,880.65		
ADD Income for 2024	£1,885.50		
	£7,766.15		
LESS Expenditure for 2024	NIL	£7,766.15	
		TO SUMMARY	£7,766.15
SUMMARY			
CURRENT ACCOUNT			£10,132.77
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT			£4,320.63
TOUR FUND ACCOUNT			£7,766.15
		TOTAL CASH IN HAND as at 31st DECEMBER 2024	£22,219.55

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS - FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2024 (Cont'd)

BANK RECONCILLIATION			
CURRENT ACCOUNT			
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2024	£11,098.77		
Less Unpresented Cheques			
Chq 03333 All Saints Church St David Day	£400.00		
CHQ 03403 Harris Printers	£66.00		
Chq 03405 Velindre Cancer Centre	£500.00	£966.00	£10,132.77
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT			
Bank statement 31 st December 2024		£4,320.63	£4,320.63
TOUR FUND ACCOUNT			
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2024		£7,436.15	
Cash in hand	£330.00	£330.00	£7,766.15 ✓
BANK RECONCILLIATION 31st DECEMBER 2024			£22,219.55
TREASURER Mrs MARILYN Hill <i>M. S. Hill</i>			
Auditor Mr Phillip Tew <i>Phew</i>			
Date	3.2.2025.		



**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held at RC Church
Friday 14 March 2025**

	Action
<p>1 Present: Adrian Powis (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Rob Cotter, Viv Griffiths, Gareth Lewis, Jon Machin, Mark Smith, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Roy Bowen, Mike Griffiths, Lawrence Hopkins, John Mathias, Stuart Phillips, John Wright.</p> <p>Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Stan Hill, Ian Jacka, Roy Jeynes, John Pearman, Lyn Sullivan, Glenn White, Mike Williams.</p> <p>Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Tony Kavanagh, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans.</p> <p>Non-voting attendees: Laura Deenik, Matthew Bates, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan.</p>	
<p>2 Apologies: Chris Davies, Malcolm Evans, Martin Griffiths, Colin Gronow, David Jones, Huw Jones, John Jones, Owain Jones, Brian Raybould, Gwyn Richards, Phil Rowe, Daryl Strong, Phil Tew, Ian Thomas.</p>	
<p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 9 February 2024 Proposed: Jon Machin Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 14 March 2025 Proposed: Chris Evans Seconded: Mike Francis</p>	
<p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: one matter arose from the minutes of the previous AGM and this has been actioned. This related to contacting the Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.</p>	
<p>5 Notices of motion: No notices of motion were submitted.</p>	
<p>6 Chairman's Report: Copied from prepared script.</p> <p>Welcome everyone to our AGM. 2024 was certainly a busy and eventful year for our Choir and my first year as Chairman trying to fill the boots of our previous Chairman John Pearman. I want to begin by thanking everyone for the fantastic support I have had. I'm very fortunate to have an amazing committee, a good committee always makes a Chairman's role so much easier.</p>	

Noel does a fantastic job working tirelessly as Secretary, always on the ball with his minutes and Marilyn works extremely hard in her role as Treasurer which isn't an easy role when you consider our current economic climate. A big shout out to Mark our Concert Secretary for all his hard work and Ian for all he does with our social media and setting up our new web site.

Ian Williams: We have close to 950 followers on Facebook and 37,500 views in the last 28 days.

But every member of the committee contributes and I thank you all for giving up your time to help with the management of the choir.

I would also like to thank a number of our long serving Choir members who have supported me with their experience, in particular Roy, Stuart, Viv, John and Howard amongst others.

We currently have 51 members.

Last year we sadly lost Fred Draper in January and Kelvin Isaac in May and of course we are currently mourning the loss of another Choir stalwart in Phil Davies.

But we continue to grow our ranks with a number of new members joining throughout the year.

Gwyn Richards, Huw Jones, Matthew Bates, Steve Gibbins, Gerwyn James, Tom Jordan and Martin Griffiths.

Like I said 2024 has been a very busy year and we have had to explore different ways of raising funds while our main concert venue, The Pavilion is still out of action.

We started the year at the end of January having been invited to sing at All Saints Church to celebrate 100 years of the British Legion.

On the 10th February we were asked to sing at The Seagull prior to the England v Wales six nations game, a fun afternoon out for us all.

March 1st saw us perform our St David's Day concert at All Saints which was a real success. We also did our annual performance with the children at Porthcawl Primary School.

On Sunday 28th April, which as I remember was a beautiful sunny spring day, we sang for a small crowd from the Porthcawl Veterans Hub at the Bowling Green, Griffin Park.

We were asked to perform at Porthcawl Rugby Club's Sponsors Day and as usual we entertained their guests; we continue to have a fantastic relationship with the rugby club and are extremely grateful of the support they give us and we continue to use their facilities for our committee meetings.

On 16th May we were invited by The Coastwatch to sing at All Saints Church.

Throughout May, every Wednesday evening, a quiz night and raffle were held at the Jolly Sailor, this proved to be very beneficial financially to us and we are hoping to replicate this again this year. These new types of events really help to boost our funds.

May also saw us moving to our new home at the Catholic Church Hall and whilst we will be eternally grateful to Arlington Road Church circumstances were such, we needed to find a new practice venue to ensure the future of the Choir. We looked at a number of options but agreed on the Catholic Church and I must say they have been absolutely fantastic, giving us our own little area for our equipment and music and space upstairs for uniform storage. I must say we have struck up a great working relationship with them.

We had a very successful social evening at the Grove Golf Club on Saturday 15th June but this was tinged with sadness as it was an event that had been originally organised by Kelvin.

July was quite a busy month that saw us singing as usual on The Green in Newton for the annual Church Fayre, followed I'm sure with copious amounts of beer in the Jolly Sailor

We also sang at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club

We were also asked to sing at the funeral of Gunter Ehresmann in Chepstow, whilst we try to restrict our performances at funerals to local ones, we agreed and it turned out to be very different from most traditional funerals being more of a celebration of his life. Marcus his son arranged a coach for us and afterwards the celebration of Gunter's life continued with food and beverages at The Boat Inn.

Our Ladies Section arranged a coach trip to Stratford upon Avon, this was a huge success as usual and everyone had really enjoyable day.

I must say how grateful we are for all the ladies support, not only do they support us at all our concerts with raffles and ticket sales etc they do so much more raising money to support us with things like our ties and trousers etc.

If any other ladies would like to join our Ladies Section, they would be more than welcome.

In August we were asked to sing at a 85th Birthday garden party at Kittiwake Close, Nottage, we were so well received and it was a really nice afternoon. It was so warm we decided to buy baseball caps for choristers.

September was again quite a busy month with our Annual Concert again being held at All Saints Church due to the out of action Pavilion. It was an exceptional evening as usual and our guest artist Rhiannon Herridge was really well received, again we performed to a sell-out audience.

September also saw the Elvis Festival at the Hi-Tide and although the venue this time wasn't as suitable for us as previous years an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

In October we sang at Pencoed Rugby Club for the Twinning Society, where we were received very well and gained some contacts In France.

We were also asked to sing for The Welsh Guards Veterans at Cosy Corner. A first for the choir at this new outdoor venue but one that proved very successful and a future venue we may well use again.

We also sang at the Civic Service for the new Mayor of Porthcawl, Cllr Jeff Perren at All Saints Church.

November saw us sing as usual at the Annual Remembrance Day service at All Saints Church where a poppy wreath was laid on behalf of the choir by Colin Gronow an ex-para trooper.

December saw the year quickly drawing to a close but as usual it was an extremely busy time for the choir. We began with performances at The Prince Wales and The Globe pubs. We also performed at the RNLI Christmas concert. Due to adverse weather our Annual Christmas Concert was cancelled.

We also did our usual performance for The Stroke Club at Grove Golf Club. We sang at The Masonic Care Home, another annual Christmas event. This year for the first time we did a Concert in The Catholic Church, Our Lady Star of the Sea for our new friends there.

To finish up the Christmas events a number of us did a wet session of carols and Christmas songs at the Jolly Sailor as a thank you for all their support.

We have also sang at numerous weddings and funerals throughout the year.

All in all, a very busy but successful year.

Lots of different types of events, and we continue to try to find enjoyable, unique events such as the event on Paddington station.

A big part of our enjoyment as a Choir is touring, unfortunately due to lack of interest we didn't tour last year.

But I'm very grateful to Howard and Chris for all the work they have put in to arrange our up-and-coming tour to Wexford.

We still have some availability if anyone else or friends and family would like to join us.

Finally, I would like to give a huge thanks to our Musical Team

I believe Alec has done wonders with us over the last year, even getting us to sing pieces such as Bohemian Rhapsody, which I believe was shelved at one point proving too difficult in the past.

We are very fortunate to have extremely talented accompanists in Richard and Laura and of course our stand in MD Paul, to whom we are extremely grateful for being able to take us on the occasions Alec hasn't been available.

We are very blessed to have such a talented musical team.

A big thank you to the guys who move and set up all of our equipment for events, thank you all for your hard work.

And to Chris for ensuring no one ever gets away without buying a raffle ticket.

Can I conclude by just thanking everyone for the friendship, commitment and sense of comradery you bring to the Choir.

Events for 2025 are already gaining momentum with lots of exciting things being organised.

I wish you all well and look forward to all we do together over the coming year.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year, the same as the previous year. Choristers make this possible and it has been a pleasure to stand in front of them. Thanks also to the Musical Team, Laura who is here tonight, Richard and Paul. Thanks to the committee for their support and help throughout the year. The friendship of the choir has been very important. All are so friendly and thanks for the year and now looking forward to this year.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024 were also distributed.

I'm pleased to present our annual accounts for 2024.

INCOME: 49 paid up members and donations from 2 life members. The patron's donation was from Eynon with other patrons being in the annual concert figures. The gift aid of £3,006.80 for 2.5 years.

Thank you to some of our ladies who did a month's bucket collection at the Jolly Sailor quiz night which raised £1,170. The large amount for funerals was made up of donations from Fred Drapers widow Sally, Kelvin Isaac's family, Marcus's payment included the bus to Chepstow and the Fergie family. Our annual concert income was £5,781.25 even with reduced fees to our advertisers and supporters and reduced ticket prices this was a good outcome. We also did well with our concerts.

EXPENDITURE: We are very lucky to have our new home at Our Lady Star of the Sea. Total rent paid £2,940 which included two extra months to Arlington Church before we left.

We now as you know have a payment machine and the charges came to £24.20 this being 1.69% of each transaction. The cost of our musical team was £11,415, new equipment included £166.80 for the new card machine. After outgoings our annual concert raised £3,687.07. You all had new trousers and the new members new jumpers. We gave a donation of £500 to Velindre Cancer Centre. A good financial year all round with C/A finishing on £10,132.77.

Our Deposit account earned £61.78 in interest and finished on £4,320.63.

Our Tour account added £1,845.40 from the raffle and finished at £7,766.15.

So, in total we hold £22,219.55 as at 31/12/2024.

My thanks to Chris and all those who have collected money through the year. I feel the choir is in a strong financial position to go forward into 2025., and thanks to our wonderful committee for their help and advice.

Thanks, and praise to our Ladies Section who gave us £1,129.50 towards trousers and our new web site. My thoughts and prayers go to Kelvin Isaac who was our auditor, and to Philip Tew who kindly took on the job half way into the year, I am so grateful to him.

For the year ahead I propose subscriptions be increased by £10 from £125 to £135 this is £2.60 per week and I see as excellent value. Also an increase of £5 per practice for our musical director and accompanist. We have a quality team and I feel we need to show our appreciation.

The raffle I propose to keep splitting between the C/A and tour account. This will help build the tour account but help with the C/A if work starts to dry up in the year ahead.

On the notice board are our 2 account details, please use the correct account when transferring money. New members can pay by standing order monthly if they wish, if they are tax payers, please can they sign a gift aid declaration for us to claim back an extra 25%.

And to finish off thank you all for PAYING SELLING BUYING and parting with your cash on time, but most of all putting up with a woman in a male choir.

Additional comments made during the presentation:

Treasurer: HMRC now make random requests for charity, to make a corporation tax return. This was completed by Noel Williams.

John Pearman: commented on the good work done to receive gift aid.

Viv Griffiths: thanks to Marilyn Hill, one special person.

Treasurer: asked the meeting to vote on the proposed increase to subscriptions and the payments to the musical team. A show of hand indicated unanimous support for the increases.

9 Auditors Report:

Phil Tew, the auditor had given his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. He had previously spoken to the Chairman and Secretary to express the high standard of work from the Treasurer, Marilyn Hill. He commented on how well the accounts had been maintained and prepared noting everything was in order.

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconder
Chairman	Adrian Powis	John Pearman	Phil Tew
Vice Chairman	John Mathias	Roy Bowen	Glenn White
Secretary	Noel Williams	John Pearman	Glenn White
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	Phil Tew	John Pearman
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	Rob Cotter	Lyn Sullivan
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Gareth Lewis	Daryl Strong
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Mike Williams	Chris Davies
<u>Section Leaders</u>			
Top Tenor	Gerwyn James	Viv Griffiths	Howard Evans
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	Glenn White	Mark Smith
Baritone	Chris Davies	John Pearman	Stan Hill
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Stuart Phillips	Mike Griffiths

Mike Griffiths was prepared to continue as Social Secretary helping for social events but did not wish to be on the committee.

Retiring and new members were respectively thanked and welcomed.

Chairman: we will have a block vote. This duly took place and all were unanimously voted as per the nominations list.

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

11 Any Other Business:

No items for discussion.

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Noel Williams: the Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the date. On this basis the AGM is planned for 20 February 2026.



Noel Williams – Secretary

NW

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR (COR MEIBION PORTHCAWL)

England & Wales - Charity number 1195139

Accounts

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held at Arlington Road Church
Friday 9 February 2024

	Action
<p>1 Present: John Pearman (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), Adrian Powis (Vice-Chairman), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Chris Davies, Gareth Lewis, Jon Machin, Mark Smith, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Roy Bowen, John Mathias, Stuart Phillips, Brian Raybould, John Wright.</p> <p>Phil Davies, Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Stan Hill, Lyn Sullivan, Phil Tew, Ian Thomas, Glenn White.</p> <p>John Crocker, Malcolm Evans, Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Kelvin Isaac, Tony Kavanagh, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans, John B Jones, Phil Rowe, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Non-voting attendees: Laura Deenik, Roy Jeynes, Daryl Strong.</p> <p>2 Apologies: John Bevan, Rob Cotter, Mike Griffiths, Viv Griffiths, Ian Jacka, David Jones, Owain Jones,</p> <p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 24 February 2023 Proposed: Lyn Sullivan Seconded: Fred Draper</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 9 February 2024 Proposed: Jon Machin Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: All matters from the minutes of the previous AGM have been actioned. These related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • split proceeds of raffle • contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations • sing at Principality Stadium • sing at Royal Albert Hall. <p>5 Notices of motion: No notices of motion were submitted.</p> <p>6 Chairmans Report: Copied from prepared script. In welcoming you all to this year's AGM I do so, as last year, with a sense of deep gratitude for the commitment and support given to the Choir during 2023. Numbering 52 choristers at end December we welcomed Tony Kavanagh to the Second Tenors but were sorry to lose Dave Wall from the Baritones. Dave was a master at the art of using computer technology to provide musical composition for section voice practice, a facility widely appreciated. With a seemingly settled membership over the last two-year period, I have found myself reflecting as I</p>	

prepare to write this report on the vision of those individuals who met together in 1980 to look at the possibility of forming a Porthcawl Male Voice Choir. Stuart was at that meeting, as was Kelvin, Roy joining the group a few months later and Phil in 1982. Stuart, Roy and Phil have served the Choir continually for over 40 years since joining, whilst Kelvin made a welcome return in 2021 after stepping down for a period. When I look back at these stalwarts of our Choir, I see in them the standard bearers of the flags of achievement and enjoyment that the 1980 pioneers wished us to carry. Would we meet with approval from those early enthusiasts for the wide variety of events to which we have contributed over the year? I feel confident we would do so. We have stayed close at all times to the 'Objects' cited in our Constitution for the advancement of music, featuring strongly in concerts and recitals. So let us now look back at our busy programme of 2023.

Our programme commenced in February with the invitation from Parkdean to sing at the annual Parkdean Management Conference with over 300 delegates at Trecco Bay. What a truly memorable evening it turned out to be. The warmth of the welcome, the enthusiastic audience responses and the subsequent messages of thanks delighted us. You may recall Ian's excellent cover of this event in the Spring edition of 'The Chorister'.

We returned to Porthcawl Primary School on St David's Day. What a pleasure it was to see the smiles on the children's faces as they sang along with the Choir. A happy development of course is that the children from the school will be joining us at our St David's Day Concert at All Saints this year.

The next concert on 11th March was at All Saints with the visiting mixed-voice 'Amici Cantate' Choir from Bishop's Stortford on the Hertfordshire/Essex boundary. We thank Jane Watkins, a former resident of Porthcawl, for initiating these arrangements. A lovely evening was enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience.

Attention switched to filming in April. We were part of the Jamie Adam's film 'It's Christmas' starring Simon Callow and Brittany Snow which, we understand, is premiering at the Tribeca Film Festival this year. With filming taking place at both Arlington Road Church and at Porthcawl RFC and then again later in the year around the village green and local hostelrys of Newton we look forward to an extra Xmas present this year.

The successful tour of attractive Llandudno took place in early June. A party of 80 Choir members and friends stayed in the well-appointed Chatsworth House Hotel, an ideal spot for exploring the area. Some took the tram to the summit of the Great Orme; others boarded the local tour bus to Conway whilst some found the bracing walk along the Pier blew the cobwebs away. The choir was warmly welcomed by the Colwyn Male Choir with whom we shared the stage at St. John's Church in a memorable concert. I am sure that many will remember 'Fields of Athenry' sung so movingly by a top tenor with Colwyn. A passionate rendition. Tranquility was the order of the day for the following Sunday, with those who wished to see farther afield enjoying a coach tour via Betws-y-Coed, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Porthmadog and across the Menai Straits to LlanfairPG. Time allowed to photograph the longest station name in the UK and also time for some to snap up those eye-catching multi-coloured shirts. I blame Jon and Mark!

Another concert on the calendar was yet to be held before the annual. Social chats in Cwmafan Rugby Club by Gareth and Mal, our Welsh language speakers with colleagues at Onllwyn had led to initial thoughts of a joint concert, to be held in Porthcawl, and this came to fruition in All Saints on 15th July. A wonderful evening earned a rousing standing ovation. After-concert pleasantries continued with refreshments served at the Farmers Arms in Nottage, whilst landlady Stacy's excellent ale fuelled fine singing voices.

Attention turned to the Annual Concert at the Grand Pavilion, with Mike Doyle this year's Celebrity Guest. Thanks once again to a co-ordination of good publicity via Ian's media programmes and the efforts of Choir members in selling tickets we achieved an almost full house on 2nd September. Marilyn will give details in her report of the financial benefit accrued from the successful annual concert in underpinning the annual accounts. What a lovely night it was. You increasingly felt the audience engagement whilst the enthusiastic response to 'Gonna rise up singin' is a memory in itself. The Dilwyn Evans Award was made to Megan Prance and Will Evans reflecting the links across the generations and close association the Choir holds with Porthcawl Schools. There was much celebration after the Concert as Choir, guests and friends met together in the lower room. A special moment for me was to see my daughter Mari-Clare and her children Grace and Sebastian meeting up with friends old and new. They had travelled from West Sussex for the Concert, loved the event and

there I was wondering if my daughter was chatting with Jon about those halcyon days at Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

The Elvis Festival followed quickly. At 12.15 pm on Sunday 24th September the Choir assembled in a large marquee at the Hi-Tide to sing live broadcast on the 'Owen Money Show'. Here was another new experience and the Choir response to the challenge could not have been better. Not only did we have enthusiastic audience applause (I remember a particularly enthusiastic Pontypool Rugby Group) but we received appreciative words from Owen Money, whilst Louise, the Programme Director, had wanted to make sure that she saw me before leaving 'to thank all in the choir for their wonderful singing' It was quite emotional. It seems that we are 'with Elvis' to stay.

The Remembrance Sunday Service at All Saints Church on 12th November saw the Choir again sing in the Devotional Service inside the Church before re-assembling with other Worshippers, Representative and Community Groups outside the Church for the laying of wreaths at the Cenotaph. Stuart Phillips laid the wreath on behalf of Porthcawl Male Choir. His wife Julie's father had been taken from HMS Exeter and had been held a prisoner of war in Burma by the Japanese from St David's Day 1942 until VJ Day 1945.

Then the busy Christmas programme was upon us. This featured a mix of Community events, visits to local hostelries, support for the local RNLI, Masonic Home and Stroke Club, but with our own two Christmas Concerts very much on our minds. On Saturday 9th December we held the Choir Christmas Concert at All Saints, welcoming guests and official dignitaries. With 'mistletoe and wine' sung in good cheer and the Church itself fully decorated with Christmas trees it was a moving Service. Finally on Tuesday 19th December we sang for the Arlington Road Church faithful, expressing the Choir's gratitude to Brian Willment and the Elders for granting us the use of the Church over many years to hold our Practices. It was lovely to see Brian and his wife Jean at the 'Carols and Lessons Service'. In addition to these concerts, we have been delighted during the year to sing at weddings, provide support at funerals, support town events and even open the new Aldi. I must of course repeat our thanks for the wonderful day we enjoyed at the wedding of Ben Cotter and Vicky Toye at the Vale Resort and being so much part of the family celebration. In a family sense but in a very different setting the Choir sang outside life-time supporter Jean Machin's house in a live-time ITV News broadcast to celebrate Jean's 95th birthday. Then at the funeral service of 91-year-old Dorothy Jenkins in St John's Church the appreciative words expressed by the family about the Choir's attendance meant so much. I am sure that many of us will recall the words spoken by the 2 grand-children so lovingly about their grand-mother and I felt we were privileged to have heard them. Music does open the Choir to many experiences and the year 2023 has proved particularly memorable.

It has indeed been poignant for me that the last 2 choir events of my Chairmanship should have a personal touch. The British Legion 'Centenary of Foundation Dedication Service' had former chorister and friend Ray Street as Honorary Secretary and flag bearer. The funeral of dear Fred Draper, whom many of you know was a passenger in my car to Choir Practice over many months, was in fact attended by Ray Street. Ray said he had found the funeral to be a truly moving and memorable service.

Behind such a busy and successful event packed calendar there has to be a dedicated group of workers, undertaking their own duties but recognising also how closely the responsibilities of one office-holder are inter-related with those of another. In thanking my committee for their fulfilment of duties, I thank you all as a team. Individual thanks would find me repeating all that I said last year and that was gold-plated thanks. One change in office this year did however occur with the election of top tenor Section Leader Adrian to Vice-Chairman.

Adrian has slotted into his role seamlessly since re-placing the warmly regarded John Mathias as Vice-Chairman. In providing details of a possible Choir tour in Italy, in support of Viv's sterling work as Choir Marshall at Choir Events and in his success as 'Film Editor' of the 'Calendar Girls' style Choir calendar for 2024. Adrian has worked ceaselessly. I did smile on observing that the front page of the calendar had appeared in the 'ARTS' section of the January Seaside News and wondered if this was 'media partnership' at work! Adrian's valued service this year, I know, has equipped him well for Chairmanship and the challenges that lie ahead.

So, to all members of my committee team, my thanks. Noel and Marilyn, such professional application, Noel's total command of secretarial necessities and action points ensures that everyone is fully informed of the outcome of committee meetings and on any matter impacting on Choir

developments and membership. Marilyn's Monthly Accounts and the wide 'collection channels' she monitors to support them are testament to her dedication in all aspects as Treasurer. A maternal eye watching over us from her desk at Practice Time! Here also we find Noel and Marilyn working in partnership in seeking to obtain the 'Gift Aid' entitlement that we should receive under our 'Charitable Status'.

Ian and Mark can also see their duties over-lap. Ian continues to use and develop with great effect our Choir image in local social media outlets such as Facebook, in BBC News outlets and in local news sources such as 'Seaside News'. Mark's enthusiasm for his task is infectious which means everyone wants to book with Porthcawl Choir. Mark's commitment and hard work in his many duties as Concert Secretary are greatly appreciated. Rob as Librarian always seems to have every piece of music available. Section Leaders Adrian, Jon, Chris and Gareth are key to the operating functioning of the Choir with their pastoral care and ensuring that practical matters are discussed at committee. From 'new songs' to modifications to uniform, our Section Leaders raise issues that are widely appreciated by members. Chris also deserves our thanks for selling tickets for the Raffle before each Choir Practice. Outside of committee I thank Mark, Ian and Glenn for their unobtrusive and efficient handling duties in the Piano Team. Likewise, thanks to Kelvin for arranging social events and particularly for arranging such an enjoyable fun-filled Xmas party.

Our Ladies Team has as ever supported us splendidly. Their 'Bring and Buy' in Trinity Church Hall is always an important initiative. At Concert and Social Events your presence and contributions are integral to the success of the Choir. You designed our new 'gold tie', doing so much to make us feel we have enjoyed a 'gold brand year'.

May I turn finally to our Musical Team of Alec, Musical Director, Richard our Musical Accompanist and Laura our Musical Accompanist. Music is a wonderful gift and we as a Choir are blessed in having 3 highly talented and gifted musicians in leading us. 2024 has been a memorable year. A word also to Paul, Laura's husband, who provided moments of magic for us as Musical Director at the Choir Concert in the Masonic Home. We thank you all so much.

As you know I have given notice that I shall not be seeking re-election this year. I have served 2 years as your Chairman and am grateful to have had the opportunity of putting something back into our Choir. Music has been so kind to me. Through the Porthcawl Choir I have visited countries in Europe. Through the 'Comrades Choir' organised by Mark Burrows in Cardiff I visited countries across the world during the 2000's decade. From New Zealand and Australia to China and Hong Kong, from South Africa to Patagonia, from Russia and Estonia to the USA, I have been fortunate to meet and sing with other people in memories that last a life-time.

It has been a wonderful journey but age and experience does now tell me that this is the time to 'bow out'. I look back on another year highlighted by a memorable Annual Concert and with gratitude to a dedicated and supportive Choir that it has been a privilege to serve.

Noel Williams: I would like to record my thanks and I am sure those of everyone here to thank John for two very successful years as Chairman. As secretary I have been fortunate to have worked with Roy and John as Chairmen and now look forward to working with Adrian.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year, the same as the previous year. High points were the Parkdean concert, the film which had been something different, the Llandudno Tour and the Annual Concert where the choir had been so good. Thanks to the Musical Team, Laura who is here tonight, Richard and Paul. Thanks to the committee for their support and help throughout the year. The friendship of the choir has been very important. I have been involved in twenty choirs and none are like you. All are so friendly and thanks for the year and now looking forward to this year.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 and Budgeted forecast for the year ending 31 December 2024 were also distributed.

2023 proved to be a very financially sound year.

The Tour account ends the year with a healthy balance of £5881, the Friday raffle brought in £1714 and we subsidized the Llandudno tour by £100 per chorister, also paying for the church and expenses.

The Deposit account has increased by £31.97 interest and stands at £4258.85.

The current account balance is £7068. With our annual concert raising an amazing £5282.70 with a record 525 in the audience.

Income, we performed at various events, concerts, birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, funerals, we opened a supermarket, and even made a film, our standard charge for these events is £350. The bucket collection at the Elvis was £269.28, Contata joint concert gave us and contata £206.30 each Onllwyn joint concert gave us £195.53 with £400 to the Latch charity. Our Globe concert gave us £375. We also performed at 5 free concerts. Porthcawl Primary School, Church Fayre, Newton Fest, R.N.L.I. Remembrance Sunday.

The ladies section ran raffles at some events, and at the Carol Concert sold wine for the first time, raising £160. My thanks to all the ladies who help at all the events. We have 50 members and 2 life members who both gave contribution to the choir. Donations came in from our supporters with £350 from our bankers after a long-drawn-out change of signatures, as compensation. We had a £250 grant from Cefnogi. £500 from the race night. We sold poppies, song books and had £500 sponsorship for our calendar. Thanks to Norman at Harris printers for setting me the challenge and matching our sponsors.

Outgoings. We paid our musical team £10855; rent was £220 per month. We had our Dilwyn Evans award at the annual £250, crowd funding for a heart defibrillator and gave a contribution for training on how to use it. £300 purchased us a mic stand PA system.

This year I propose an increase in subscriptions by only £5 bringing subs to £125 a small increase in line with inflation.

For the first time you will see attached a budget for the year ahead. Ian's hard work with this is much appreciated. The gift aid of £1200.00 is for our first year as a charity and I'm in the process of applying to HMRC. With no Pavilion for the next two years, we face uncertain times ahead, but we have built up a solid financial base.

My thanks to Chris our raffle guru, to all members for parting with their money on time. Again, it is a privilege to be part of such a hard-working committee and I thank them for their help and support. Special thanks to Kelvin for being the choir auditor again this year and putting up with me.

Following the above presentation Marilyn Hill added that the committee would be discussing fund-raising and concerts bearing in mind Porthcawl was a small area with a limit on locals attending our concerts. We have a wedding confirmed for next year and possibly one later this year. There was need to continually look at outgoings and expenditure.

Chairman: Asked the meeting to vote on the proposed increase in subscriptions to £125. A show of hands indicated unanimous support for the increase.

9 Auditors Report:

Kelvin Isaac: The accounts have been well set out, easy to follow and understand. All is in order and I thank Marilyn for assisting me to carry out this work and providing answers for all questions. It is good to see a Budgeted forecast prepared by Ian Williams.

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Vice Chairman and Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position. Each nominee was unanimously elected.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Second
Chairman	Adrian Powis	Kelvin Isaac	Ian Williams
Vice Chairman			
Secretary	Noel Williams	Mike Griffiths	Kelvin Isaac
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	Kelvin Isaac	John Wright
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	John Wright	Mike Griffiths
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Kelvin Isaac	Haydn Wheeler
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Kelvin Isaac	Mike Griffiths
<u>Section Leaders</u>			
Top Tenor	Viv Griffiths	Rob Cotter	Marilyn Hill
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	Kelvin Isaac	Eddie Fearnley
Baritone	Chris Davies	Rob Cotter	John Crocker
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Mike Griffiths	John Wright

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

Kelvin Isaac was prepared to continue as Events Co-Ordinator helping for social events but did not wish to be on the committee.

Howard Evans: Do we have the opportunity to elect all nominations?

Chairman: We will have a block vote. This duly took place and all were unanimously voted as per the nominations list.

Chairman: We have had a wonderful 2 years following on from all the good work of Roy in keeping us together with Zoom during the covid period. Adrian has a very good team around him, although we will not have the Pavilion for our annual concerts. I wish him every success.

11 Any Other Business:

Howard Evans: We should wear official choir outfit - white shirts, navy choir jumper, grey trousers and black shoes at the Seagull tomorrow.

Eddie Fearnley: We wear white shirts at a concert.

Howard Evans: We are getting paid and should treat as a concert.

Chairman: In line with the discussions, we will wear white shirts, navy choir jumper, grey trousers and black shoes.

Noel Williams: I will send out an email on this as some choristers who are not here tonight will be at the Seagull tomorrow.

Chris Evans: As we do not have the Pavilion, could we do '2-3' annual concerts this year.

Ian Williams: This is something we are looking at.

NW

Marilyn Hill: We must remember All Saints costs £400 for each evening concert plus an extra £100 if we want an afternoon rehearsal.

Ian Williams: The budget is based on 5 concerts, 3 are fundamental and 2 marginal which may not be of benefit.

Mark Smith: A leaflet has been prepared to promote the choir singing at weddings. Currently we have two weddings booked for 2025.

Noel Williams: I would like to record how well Mark has done with concerts throughout the year.

Adrian Powis: Thanks for being voted in as Chairman and it will not be easy to replace John. I had not been in the choir that long before being section leader. There are many experienced choristers who will be a source of advice.

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Noel Williams: The Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the date. On this basis the AGM is planned for 21 February 2024.

Noel Williams – Secretary

		2023	2023	2023
SUMMARY				
CURRENT ACCOUNT			£7,067.99	£7,067.99
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT			£4,258.85	£4,258.85
TOUR FUND ACCOUNT			£5,880.65	£5,880.65
TOTAL CASH IN HAND as at 31st DECEMBER 2023				
				£17,207.49

BANK RECONCILIATION		2023	2023	2023
CURRENT ACCOUNT				
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2023			£8,026.99	
LESS Unpresented Cheques 0014 All Saints		£350.00		
003311 Laura Deenick		£90.00		
003299 First Responder		£50.00		
003319 Harris Printers		£20.00		
003320 Making Music		£449.00	-£959.00	<u>7067.99</u>
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT				
Bank Statment as at 31ST December 2023			£4,258.85	<u>£4,258.85</u>
TOUR FUND ACCOUNT				
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2023			£5,880.65	<u>£5,880.65</u>
BANK RECONCILIATION as at 31st DECEMBER 2023				£17,207.49

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR

Jan-23.

Marilyn Hill - Treasurer ----- *M.S. Hill*

Kelvin Isaac - Auditor ----- *Kelvin Isaac*

DATE *25.1.2024*

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held at Arlington Road Church
Friday 9 February 2024

	Action
<p>1 Present: John Pearman (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), Adrian Powis (Vice-Chairman), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Chris Davies, Gareth Lewis, Jon Machin, Mark Smith, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Roy Bowen, John Mathias, Stuart Phillips, Brian Raybould, John Wright.</p> <p>Phil Davies, Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Stan Hill, Lyn Sullivan, Phil Tew, Ian Thomas, Glenn White.</p> <p>John Crocker, Malcolm Evans, Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Kelvin Isaac, Tony Kavanagh, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans, John B Jones, Phil Rowe, Ian Williams.</p> <p>Non-voting attendees: Laura Deenik, Roy Jeynes, Daryl Strong.</p> <p>2 Apologies: John Bevan, Rob Cotter, Mike Griffiths, Viv Griffiths, Ian Jacka, David Jones, Owain Jones,</p> <p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 24 February 2023 Proposed: Lyn Sullivan Seconded: Fred Draper</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 9 February 2024 Proposed: Jon Machin Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: All matters from the minutes of the previous AGM have been actioned. These related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • split proceeds of raffle • contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations • sing at Principality Stadium • sing at Royal Albert Hall. <p>5 Notices of motion: No notices of motion were submitted.</p> <p>6 Chairmans Report: Copied from prepared script. In welcoming you all to this year's AGM I do so, as last year, with a sense of deep gratitude for the commitment and support given to the Choir during 2023. Numbering 52 choristers at end December we welcomed Tony Kavanagh to the Second Tenors but were sorry to lose Dave Wall from the Baritones. Dave was a master at the art of using computer technology to provide musical composition for section voice practice, a facility widely appreciated. With a seemingly settled membership over the last two-year period, I have found myself reflecting as I</p>	

prepare to write this report on the vision of those individuals who met together in 1980 to look at the possibility of forming a Porthcawl Male Voice Choir. Stuart was at that meeting, as was Kelvin, Roy joining the group a few months later and Phil in 1982. Stuart, Roy and Phil have served the Choir continually for over 40 years since joining, whilst Kelvin made a welcome return in 2021 after stepping down for a period. When I look back at these stalwarts of our Choir, I see in them the standard bearers of the flags of achievement and enjoyment that the 1980 pioneers wished us to carry. Would we meet with approval from those early enthusiasts for the wide variety of events to which we have contributed over the year? I feel confident we would do so. We have stayed close at all times to the 'Objects' cited in our Constitution for the advancement of music, featuring strongly in concerts and recitals. So let us now look back at our busy programme of 2023.

Our programme commenced in February with the invitation from Parkdean to sing at the annual Parkdean Management Conference with over 300 delegates at Trecco Bay. What a truly memorable evening it turned out to be. The warmth of the welcome, the enthusiastic audience responses and the subsequent messages of thanks delighted us. You may recall Ian's excellent cover of this event in the Spring edition of 'The Chorister'.

We returned to Porthcawl Primary School on St David's Day. What a pleasure it was to see the smiles on the children's faces as they sang along with the Choir. A happy development of course is that the children from the school will be joining us at our St David's Day Concert at All Saints this year.

The next concert on 11th March was at All Saints with the visiting mixed-voice 'Amici Cantate' Choir from Bishop's Stortford on the Hertfordshire/Essex boundary. We thank Jane Watkins, a former resident of Porthcawl, for initiating these arrangements. A lovely evening was enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience.

Attention switched to filming in April. We were part of the Jamie Adam's film 'It's Christmas' starring Simon Callow and Brittany Snow which, we understand, is premiering at the Tribeca Film Festival this year. With filming taking place at both Arlington Road Church and at Porthcawl RFC and then again later in the year around the village green and local hostleries of Newton we look forward to an extra Xmas present this year.

The successful tour of attractive Llandudno took place in early June. A party of 80 Choir members and friends stayed in the well-appointed Chatsworth House Hotel, an ideal spot for exploring the area. Some took the tram to the summit of the Great Orme; others boarded the local tour bus to Conway whilst some found the bracing walk along the Pier blew the cobwebs away. The choir was warmly welcomed by the Colwyn Male Choir with whom we shared the stage at St. John's Church in a memorable concert. I am sure that many will remember 'Fields of Athenry' sung so movingly by a top tenor with Colwyn. A passionate rendition. Tranquility was the order of the day for the following Sunday, with those who wished to see farther afield enjoying a coach tour via Betws-y-Coed, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Porthmadog and across the Menai Straits to LlanfairPG. Time allowed to photograph the longest station name in the UK and also time for some to snap up those eye-catching multi-coloured shirts. I blame Jon and Mark!

Another concert on the calendar was yet to be held before the annual. Social chats in Cwmafan Rugby Club by Gareth and Mal, our Welsh language speakers with colleagues at Onllwyn had led to initial thoughts of a joint concert, to be held in Porthcawl, and this came to fruition in All Saints on 15th July. A wonderful evening earned a rousing standing ovation. After-concert pleasantries continued with refreshments served at the Farmers Arms in Nottage, whilst landlady Stacy's excellent ale fuelled fine singing voices.

Attention turned to the Annual Concert at the Grand Pavilion, with Mike Doyle this year's Celebrity Guest. Thanks once again to a co-ordination of good publicity via Ian's media programmes and the efforts of Choir members in selling tickets we achieved an almost full house on 2nd September. Marilyn will give details in her report of the financial benefit accrued from the successful annual concert in underpinning the annual accounts. What a lovely night it was. You increasingly felt the audience engagement whilst the enthusiastic response to 'Gonna rise up singin' is a memory in itself. The Dilwyn Evans Award was made to Megan Prance and Will Evans reflecting the links across the generations and close association the Choir holds with Porthcawl Schools. There was much celebration after the Concert as Choir, guests and friends met together in the lower room. A special moment for me was to see my daughter Mari-Clare and her children Grace and Sebastian meeting up with friends old and new. They had travelled from West Sussex for the Concert, loved the event and

there I was wondering if my daughter was chatting with Jon about those halcyon days at Porthcawl Comprehensive School.

The Elvis Festival followed quickly. At 12.15 pm on Sunday 24th September the Choir assembled in a large marquee at the Hi-Tide to sing live broadcast on the 'Owen Money Show'. Here was another new experience and the Choir response to the challenge could not have been better. Not only did we have enthusiastic audience applause (I remember a particularly enthusiastic Pontypool Rugby Group) but we received appreciative words from Owen Money, whilst Louise, the Programme Director, had wanted to make sure that she saw me before leaving 'to thank all in the choir for their wonderful singing' It was quite emotional. It seems that we are 'with Elvis' to stay.

The Remembrance Sunday Service at All Saints Church on 12th November saw the Choir again sing in the Devotional Service inside the Church before re-assembling with other Worshippers, Representative and Community Groups outside the Church for the laying of wreaths at the Cenotaph. Stuart Phillips laid the wreath on behalf of Porthcawl Male Choir. His wife Julie's father had been taken from HMS Exeter and had been held a prisoner of war in Burma by the Japanese from St David's Day 1942 until VJ Day 1945.

Then the busy Christmas programme was upon us. This featured a mix of Community events, visits to local hostelries, support for the local RNLI, Masonic Home and Stroke Club, but with our own two Christmas Concerts very much on our minds. On Saturday 9th December we held the Choir Christmas Concert at All Saints, welcoming guests and official dignitaries. With 'mistletoe and wine' sung in good cheer and the Church itself fully decorated with Christmas trees it was a moving Service. Finally on Tuesday 19th December we sang for the Arlington Road Church faithful, expressing the Choir's gratitude to Brian Willment and the Elders for granting us the use of the Church over many years to hold our Practices. It was lovely to see Brian and his wife Jean at the 'Carols and Lessons Service'. In addition to these concerts, we have been delighted during the year to sing at weddings, provide support at funerals, support town events and even open the new Aldi. I must of course repeat our thanks for the wonderful day we enjoyed at the wedding of Ben Cotter and Vicky Toye at the Vale Resort and being so much part of the family celebration. In a family sense but in a very different setting the Choir sang outside life-time supporter Jean Machin's house in a live-time ITV News broadcast to celebrate Jean's 95th birthday. Then at the funeral service of 91-year-old Dorothy Jenkins in St John's Church the appreciative words expressed by the family about the Choir's attendance meant so much. I am sure that many of us will recall the words spoken by the 2 grand-children so lovingly about their grand-mother and I felt we were privileged to have heard them. Music does open the Choir to many experiences and the year 2023 has proved particularly memorable.

It has indeed been poignant for me that the last 2 choir events of my Chairmanship should have a personal touch. The British Legion 'Centenary of Foundation Dedication Service' had former chorister and friend Ray Street as Honorary Secretary and flag bearer. The funeral of dear Fred Draper, whom many of you know was a passenger in my car to Choir Practice over many months, was in fact attended by Ray Street. Ray said he had found the funeral to be a truly moving and memorable service.

Behind such a busy and successful event packed calendar there has to be a dedicated group of workers, undertaking their own duties but recognising also how closely the responsibilities of one office-holder are inter-related with those of another. In thanking my committee for their fulfilment of duties, I thank you all as a team. Individual thanks would find me repeating all that I said last year and that was gold-plated thanks. One change in office this year did however occur with the election of top tenor Section Leader Adrian to Vice-Chairman.

Adrian has slotted into his role seamlessly since re-placing the warmly regarded John Mathias as Vice-Chairman. In providing details of a possible Choir tour in Italy, in support of Viv's sterling work as Choir Marshall at Choir Events and in his success as 'Film Editor' of the 'Calendar Girls' style Choir calendar for 2024. Adrian has worked ceaselessly. I did smile on observing that the front page of the calendar had appeared in the 'ARTS' section of the January Seaside News and wondered if this was 'media partnership' at work! Adrian's valued service this year, I know, has equipped him well for Chairmanship and the challenges that lie ahead.

So, to all members of my committee team, my thanks. Noel and Marilyn, such professional application, Noel's total command of secretarial necessities and action points ensures that everyone is fully informed of the outcome of committee meetings and on any matter impacting on Choir

developments and membership. Marilyn's Monthly Accounts and the wide 'collection channels' she monitors to support them are testament to her dedication in all aspects as Treasurer. A maternal eye watching over us from her desk at Practice Time! Here also we find Noel and Marilyn working in partnership in seeking to obtain the 'Gift Aid' entitlement that we should receive under our 'Charitable Status'.

Ian and Mark can also see their duties over-lap. Ian continues to use and develop with great effect our Choir image in local social media outlets such as Facebook, in BBC News outlets and in local news sources such as 'Seaside News'. Mark's enthusiasm for his task is infectious which means everyone wants to book with Porthcawl Choir. Mark's commitment and hard work in his many duties as Concert Secretary are greatly appreciated. Rob as Librarian always seems to have every piece of music available. Section Leaders Adrian, Jon, Chris and Gareth are key to the operating functioning of the Choir with their pastoral care and ensuring that practical matters are discussed at committee. From 'new songs' to modifications to uniform, our Section Leaders raise issues that are widely appreciated by members. Chris also deserves our thanks for selling tickets for the Raffle before each Choir Practice. Outside of committee I thank Mark, Ian and Glenn for their unobtrusive and efficient handling duties in the Piano Team. Likewise, thanks to Kelvin for arranging social events and particularly for arranging such an enjoyable fun-filled Xmas party.

Our Ladies Team has as ever supported us splendidly. Their 'Bring and Buy' in Trinity Church Hall is always an important initiative. At Concert and Social Events your presence and contributions are integral to the success of the Choir. You designed our new 'gold tie', doing so much to make us feel we have enjoyed a 'gold brand year'.

May I turn finally to our Musical Team of Alec, Musical Director, Richard our Musical Accompanist and Laura our Musical Accompanist. Music is a wonderful gift and we as a Choir are blessed in having 3 highly talented and gifted musicians in leading us. 2024 has been a memorable year. A word also to Paul, Laura's husband, who provided moments of magic for us as Musical Director at the Choir Concert in the Masonic Home. We thank you all so much.

As you know I have given notice that I shall not be seeking re-election this year. I have served 2 years as your Chairman and am grateful to have had the opportunity of putting something back into our Choir. Music has been so kind to me. Through the Porthcawl Choir I have visited countries in Europe. Through the 'Comrades Choir' organised by Mark Burrows in Cardiff I visited countries across the world during the 2000's decade. From New Zealand and Australia to China and Hong Kong, from South Africa to Patagonia, from Russia and Estonia to the USA, I have been fortunate to meet and sing with other people in memories that last a life-time.

It has been a wonderful journey but age and experience does now tell me that this is the time to 'bow out'. I look back on another year highlighted by a memorable Annual Concert and with gratitude to a dedicated and supportive Choir that it has been a privilege to serve.

Noel Williams: I would like to record my thanks and I am sure those of everyone here to thank John for two very successful years as Chairman. As secretary I have been fortunate to have worked with Roy and John as Chairmen and now look forward to working with Adrian.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year, the same as the previous year. High points were the Parkdean concert, the film which had been something different, the Llandudno Tour and the Annual Concert where the choir had been so good. Thanks to the Musical Team, Laura who is here tonight, Richard and Paul. Thanks to the committee for their support and help throughout the year. The friendship of the choir has been very important. I have been involved in twenty choirs and none are like you. All are so friendly and thanks for the year and now looking forward to this year.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023 and Budgeted forecast for the year ending 31 December 2024 were also distributed.

2023 proved to be a very financially sound year.

The Tour account ends the year with a healthy balance of £5881, the Friday raffle brought in £1714 and we subsidized the Llandudno tour by £100 per chorister, also paying for the church and expenses.

The Deposit account has increased by £31.97 interest and stands at £4258.85.

The current account balance is £7068. With our annual concert raising an amazing £5282.70 with a record 525 in the audience.

Income, we performed at various events, concerts, birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, funerals, we opened a supermarket, and even made a film, our standard charge for these events is £350. The bucket collection at the Elvis was £269.28, Contata joint concert gave us and contata £206.30 each Onllwyn joint concert gave us £195.53 with £400 to the Latch charity. Our Globe concert gave us £375. We also performed at 5 free concerts. Porthcawl Primary School, Church Fayre, Newton Fest, R.N.L.I. Remembrance Sunday.

The ladies section ran raffles at some events, and at the Carol Concert sold wine for the first time, raising £160. My thanks to all the ladies who help at all the events. We have 50 members and 2 life members who both gave contribution to the choir. Donations came in from our supporters with £350 from our bankers after a long-drawn-out change of signatures, as compensation. We had a £250 grant from Cefnogi. £500 from the race night. We sold poppies, song books and had £500 sponsorship for our calendar. Thanks to Norman at Harris printers for setting me the challenge and matching our sponsors.

Outgoings. We paid our musical team £10855; rent was £220 per month. We had our Dilwyn Evans award at the annual £250, crowd funding for a heart defibrillator and gave a contribution for training on how to use it. £300 purchased us a mic stand PA system.

This year I propose an increase in subscriptions by only £5 bringing subs to £125 a small increase in line with inflation.

For the first time you will see attached a budget for the year ahead. Ian's hard work with this is much appreciated. The gift aid of £1200.00 is for our first year as a charity and I'm in the process of applying to HMRC. With no Pavilion for the next two years, we face uncertain times ahead, but we have built up a solid financial base.

My thanks to Chris our raffle guru, to all members for parting with their money on time. Again, it is a privilege to be part of such a hard-working committee and I thank them for their help and support. Special thanks to Kelvin for being the choir auditor again this year and putting up with me.

Following the above presentation Marilyn Hill added that the committee would be discussing fund-raising and concerts bearing in mind Porthcawl was a small area with a limit on locals attending our concerts. We have a wedding confirmed for next year and possibly one later this year. There was need to continually look at outgoings and expenditure.

Chairman: Asked the meeting to vote on the proposed increase in subscriptions to £125. A show of hands indicated unanimous support for the increase.

9 Auditors Report:

Kelvin Isaac: The accounts have been well set out, easy to follow and understand. All is in order and I thank Marilyn for assisting me to carry out this work and providing answers for all questions. It is good to see a Budgeted forecast prepared by Ian Williams.

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Vice Chairman and Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position. Each nominee was unanimously elected.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Second
Chairman	Adrian Powis	Kelvin Isaac	Ian Williams
Vice Chairman			
Secretary	Noel Williams	Mike Griffiths	Kelvin Isaac
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	Kelvin Isaac	John Wright
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	John Wright	Mike Griffiths
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Kelvin Isaac	Haydn Wheeler
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Kelvin Isaac	Mike Griffiths
<u>Section Leaders</u>			
Top Tenor	Viv Griffiths	Rob Cotter	Marilyn Hill
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	Kelvin Isaac	Eddie Fearnley
Baritone	Chris Davies	Rob Cotter	John Crocker
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Mike Griffiths	John Wright

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

Kelvin Isaac was prepared to continue as Events Co-Ordinator helping for social events but did not wish to be on the committee.

Howard Evans: Do we have the opportunity to elect all nominations?

Chairman: We will have a block vote. This duly took place and all were unanimously voted as per the nominations list.

Chairman: We have had a wonderful 2 years following on from all the good work of Roy in keeping us together with Zoom during the covid period. Adrian has a very good team around him, although we will not have the Pavilion for our annual concerts. I wish him every success.

11 Any Other Business:

Howard Evans: We should wear official choir outfit - white shirts, navy choir jumper, grey trousers and black shoes at the Seagull tomorrow.

Eddie Fearnley: We wear white shirts at a concert.

Howard Evans: We are getting paid and should treat as a concert.

Chairman: In line with the discussions, we will wear white shirts, navy choir jumper, grey trousers and black shoes.

Noel Williams: I will send out an email on this as some choristers who are not here tonight will be at the Seagull tomorrow.

Chris Evans: As we do not have the Pavilion, could we do '2-3' annual concerts this year.

Ian Williams: This is something we are looking at.

NW

Marilyn Hill: We must remember All Saints costs £400 for each evening concert plus an extra £100 if we want an afternoon rehearsal.

Ian Williams: The budget is based on 5 concerts, 3 are fundamental and 2 marginal which may not be of benefit.

Mark Smith: A leaflet has been prepared to promote the choir singing at weddings. Currently we have two weddings booked for 2025.

Noel Williams: I would like to record how well Mark has done with concerts throughout the year.

Adrian Powis: Thanks for being voted in as Chairman and it will not be easy to replace John. I had not been in the choir that long before being section leader. There are many experienced choristers who will be a source of advice.

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Noel Williams: The Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the date. On this basis the AGM is planned for 21 February 2024.

Noel Williams – Secretary

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR (COR MEIBION PORTHCAWL)

England & Wales - Charity number 1195139

Accounts

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Held at Arlington Road Church
Friday 24 February 2023

	Action
<p>1 Present: John Pearman (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), John Mathias (Vice-Chairman), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Roy Bowen, Fred Draper, Mike Griffiths, Gareth Lewis, Brian Raybould.</p> <p>Chris Davies, Phil Davies, Stan Hill, Mark Smith, Lyn Sullivan, Phil Tew, Dave Wall, Glenn White.</p> <p>Rob Cotter, Malcolm Evans, Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Kelvin Isaac, Jon Machin, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans, Viv Griffiths, John Jones, Phil Rowe, Dave Saunders, Ian Williams.</p>	
<p>2 Apologies: John Bevan, Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Ray Hooton, Colin Gronow, Laurence Hopkins, Owain Jones, Stuart Phillips, Adrian Powis, Ian Thomas, Mike Williams, John Wright.</p>	
<p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 18 March 2022 Proposed: Ian Williams Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 24 February 2023 Proposed: Lyn Sullivan Seconded: Fred Draper</p>	
<p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: All actions from the minutes of the previous AGM have been completed.</p>	
<p>5 Notice of motion: Put forward by Kelvin Isaac: I propose that a paper ballot be taken by all choristers for the following:</p> <p>Do you wish that the choir proceed with taking part in funerals to 'outside personnel' i.e., no relations or friends of the choir. I would ask that a paper ballot be taken, rather than a show of hands – to find a 'true' feeling of choristers. This way they will not be intimidated or swayed by their peers.</p> <p>Proposed: Kelvin Isaac Seconded: Philip Davies</p> <p>Chairman: This has exercised our minds and we are conscious many have felt strongly. Originally attendance at funerals was confined to choristers/family. We like to play our part in the community to help people and give solace. We feel that if we have the availability of the musical team and sufficient choristers then we should attend these funerals and this appears to have worked well so far.</p> <p>Howard Evans: Should a vote take place beforehand to decide whether we should have a ballot?</p>	

A vote followed and a large majority supported the ballot.

Ian Williams: If there is a 'yes' majority, how do things change?

Chairman: We would leave to the understanding of choristers on whether to attend or not.

A paper ballot took place and the count was carried out by Noel Williams, Marilyn Hill and John Mathias.

YES 26 votes

NO 9 votes.

The ballot included the votes of some choristers who had given apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. The motion was duly passed and these minutes serve as a record of such.

Roy Bowen: Does the standard charge of £350 apply to non-choristers?

Marilyn Hill confirmed this charge.

Haydn Wheeler: Queried how the pianist turned up at the funeral earlier in the week and was not used?

Alec Brookes: Advised he had omitted to tell Laura Deenik that Mair Jones would be playing.

Marilyn Hill confirmed Laura Deenik would be paid.

Chairman: We should all try to attend funerals, but choristers would have the choice and not be forced into attending. It is a status quo of existing arrangements, with members aware of the supportive choir vote to the motion.

Howard Evans: What does the Constitution say?

Roy Bowen: What does the Members Handbook say?

Noel Williams: Reference made to the Model Constitution. Clause 2 in full states:

The objects of the Society shall be to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

There was no such reference in the Members Handbook.

The minutes record the passing of the ballot.

6 Chairmans Report:

Copied from prepared script.

In welcoming you all to this year's AGM I do so with a sense of deep gratitude for the commitment and support which has been given to the Choir over the past year. We now have 53 members, welcoming into the choir during 2022 John B Jones in the Top Tenor Section and our Quiz duo Chris Evans and Mike Francis in the Baritones. Of those leaving the Choir during the year our thoughts are with Dick Ashman, Dave Penny and Kelvin White who are not able to be with us through illness, and our thanks go to former long-serving choristers Ray Street and John Williams for their dedicated contributions over many years. Jason Edmonds and Brian Davies were also valued members for their short time with us.

Our memories may sometimes play tricks upon us. Did the COVID pandemic last for almost 2 years? Were the restrictions finally lifted in Autumn 2021? Did some Choir members keep in touch via ZOOM? Has COVID and its long-term aftermath impacted adversely upon the Choir? You may

remember my predecessor Roy (Bowen) expressing his hope that the Choir would come out of the COVID pandemic as strong as it went in. This hope, I believe, has been realised, with Choir events during 2022 being performed to a high standard and being warmly received by audiences across the community.

Our immediate priority in seeking to return to "normality" was to look forward to the organisation and arrangements for the annual concert at the Grand Pavilion in September, around which other events in the calendar would be scheduled. Confirmation of the booking of the talented classical guitar husband and wife duo "TROVATORI" had been received and early contact was made with staff at the Pavilion to establish the mechanism for ticket sales.

Marilyn returned from the Pavilion with the news that tickets would no longer be "on sale" at Reception. New systems in place with advances in digital technology meant that tickets from the Pavilion could only be purchased "on-line". This change to the system of ticket sales did in fact prove to be a defining moment for the Choir. We had to make sure that ticket purchase was available to Concert audience members across all age groups, conscious that many senior members were not familiar with new "on-line" systems. The Committee recommended that all Choir members should aim to sell a minimum of 5 tickets each. This proposal was supported by Choir members and the collective effort which followed ensured that we achieved an almost full house in what proved to be a wonderfully memorable concert. Marilyn will give details in her report of the financial benefit accrued from a successful annual concert in underpinning the annual accounts.

This commitment has been reflected in all other Choir events held during the year. April saw 80 Choir members and friends travel to the Isle of Wight for a very enjoyable tour, featuring a concert in St John's Church, Sandown. Our thanks to Mike (Williams) for the arrangements made to ensure the success of the week-end, whilst we also recall Mike's switch to motor-bike outrider consequent upon the sudden illness of his father. We trust Mike's successor as Concert Secretary, Mark, will not be seen in leathers enroute to Llandudno in June.

Closer to home during the year 2022 the Choir enjoyed a visit to Porthcawl Primary School on St. David's Day, sang outside Trinity Church on a very hot day on the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and filled the air-waves at the Newton Village Fayre. Autumn identifies the Choir with the Remembrance Day Service at All Saint's Church and then the busy but enjoyable Christmas was upon us. Events included concerts at the Albert Edward Court Masonic Home, All Saint's Church and The Grove for our traditional evening with the Stroke Club. Intertwined with these events were the social events where Ray (Hooton), who had previously organised a very successful "Race-Night" evening, arranged for the Choir to sing at the Globe in Newton and then the following week to relax at The Grove when some 80 members and friends enjoyed a splendid evening in the company of comedian Denis Laing. With Ray retiring from his post this year I would like to thank him for the detailed planning and attention to detail which has marked the success of events he has organised during his 4-year tenure as Social Secretary.

This dedication to the task in hand has been evident in the work undertaken by each member of the committee, recognising also how closely the responsibilities of one office holder is inter-related with those of another. We find Mark as Concert Secretary liaising carefully with Ian as Public Relations Officer and with Dave Wall as Programme Editor in a rapidly evolving age of new technology where new opportunities are continually opening up. I never cease to be amazed at the speed with which data on our Choir web-site is superseded by "visits" on Facebook where information is rapidly sought and exchanged. Our thanks to both Ian and Dave as they guide us patiently into the realms of new technology and to Mark for promoting the Choir so well on radio. May we also thank Ian for his liaison with Drs Rupert and Sarah Thurston who raised funds for the provision of a defibrillator for the Choir. Rob as Librarian, our Section Leaders Adrian, Jon, Chris and Gareth fulfil in their elected roles a duty of care which, I know is appreciated by all Choir members. Rob's care of music sheets is already becoming legendary, an all-round performance of which I know his predecessor Eddie is proud. Our Section Leaders provide a pastoral care, conscious of the well-being of their members and raising practical matters on the content and timing of meetings. Outside of committee but essential to the smooth running of concerts and finances, I thank Mark, Ian and Glenn for their duties in the Piano team and Chris for his time given before the start of each Choir Practice to make sure we have all bought our raffle tickets. The sterling work of Viv as Choir Marshall means so much to us all in maintaining good order and discipline in Choir concerts.

Our Ladies' Team has as ever supported us splendidly. We do hope that Jen feels that the men re-gained their spurs this year with the attendances at the "Bring and Buy" in Trinity Church Hall in the Summer. At Concert and at Social Events your presence and contributions are integral to the success of the Choir.

Our thanks as a Choir go to Brian (Willment) for enabling us to meet for practice at the Arlington Road Church. The Christmas concert held in the Church at Christmas is always very special to members and gives us an opportunity to pause in appreciation of the facilities made available over many years.

To my Vice-Chairman John, Secretary Noel and Treasurer Marilyn I extend my deepest thanks. John has been influential in establishing the Charitable status of the Choir, whilst his supportive role as Vice-Chairman has been immense. Noel's exemplary role as Secretary ensures that everyone is fully informed of committee meetings and on any matter impacting on Choir development and membership. His ability to produce and circulate comprehensive Minutes of meetings within days of their taking place is invaluable. Just as promptly at hand are the issue of Monthly and now the Annual Accounts. Marilyn is meticulous in preparation of the Accounts, which so clearly depict the financial state of the Choir and provide essential information for decision making. Marilyn's compilation is perhaps the tip of the ice-berg, for she does so much work in receiving donations from sponsors, advising on financial aspects of Choir tours and Choir bookings, as well as the routine matters of collecting subscriptions and issuing receipts.

May I turn finally to our Musical Team of Alec, Musical Director, Richard our Musical Accompanist and Agnes and Laura our Musical Accompanists. Music is a wonderful gift and we as a Choir are so grateful to Alec for his skillful musical direction and patient good humour and to Richard whose outstanding contributions as Accompanist have thrilled audiences. In support of Richard, we have Agnes Pottage a recipient of the Dilwyn Evans Memorial Prize this year and Laura Deenik, two young ladies whose rich talents at the piano give much confidence for the future. We are indeed fortunate to have such a talented team, following the legacy of our own gifted former Musical Director Mair who herself has continued to provide cover on request for the musical team during the year.

I look back on a year highlighted by a memorable Annual Concert and gratitude to a dedicated committee and supportive Choir that it has been a privilege to lead.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year and I look forward to attending the rehearsals as do all choristers. High points were the Isle of Wight Tour, the Annual Concert and the All Saints Concert. I am looking forward to the events we have planned for this year. Events have been well publicised on Facebook. I thank choristers for their support and also thanks to our accompanists.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 given out separately.

After a full year we finished financial with £4642.18 current a/c, £4226.88 deposit a/c £7254.15, tour a/c a total of £16123.21.

The first thing of note is the main accounts show nearly the same balances as 2022

Starting with the tour account, the raffle brought in a very healthy £2738.43. My thanks have to go to Chris Davies for his work all year selling tickets.

The committee voted for a £100 subsidy per chorister for our tour to Llandudno, at the time of writing this there are 34 choristers on the tour.

Due to the new system at the Pavilion, we used the tour account to purchase the annual concert tickets, the account was restored to its correct balance by the year end in December.

The deposit account was increased by £9.19 interest earned.

The current account, subscriptions from 47 choristers and two life members. With donations from visitors and supporter of £180. we sang at 2 funerals £400. Concerts; Council for the jubilee £200 Globe at Xmas £230, our Xmas concert at All Saints £323.20, Masonic home £200 (2 years), Stroke club £100, RNLI life boat naming £100. Our socials the race night brought in £1167 and cleared £700 profit. The Christmas social was subsidized and in 2023 will break even due to a successfully raffle.

We have now paid Calon Heart for a defibrillator and our thanks to Dr Rupert Thurston for raising the money for us on social media after doing the Cardiff half marathon.

The rent is now £200 per month or £2400 a year. We didn't start paying until April thus the £1800.

Musical team cost was £8820 for the year.

Lastly of interest we had a storming Annual Concert, which gave us £4717 this made up the short fall in the yearly accounts. The audience was 493 and our drink raffle brought in £447. Again, thanks to you all for selling the tickets and the ladies' section for their all-round help. This year's concert is the 2nd September and the artist will be Mr Mike Doyle.

My thanks now go to your committee for their continuing support, to you the choristers for all your contribution. We now have charity status and can rattle the buckets at venues, we can claim gift aid on your subscription. If you have not submitted a form, please see me. The options for payments are the same standing orders is available, if paying direct please use the correct account, details on the board.

Now for the things you have been waiting for, I propose that subscription remain the same at £120 But I'm asking for your support to increase our musical team's fee. our musical director to increase by £10 per week and the accompanists £5 each per week i.e., £10 or £20 per week in total a yearly total of £980. They Have not had an increase since 2019. We have a wonderful team which we appreciate and don't want to lose.

The other increase is for the church we pay £2400 I would like to increase this by £20 per month being mindful of ongoing energy costs.

So, a quick round up, a good 1st full year back after COVID. Work being mainly in the last part of the year. I look forward to a financial fantastic annual concert, with the tickets being a much easier sell. I am privileged to be a member of a hard-working committee and I thank them all for their help and advice. But a special thanks to Kelvin for being our choir auditor again this year.

A discussion took place during the above presentation.

Dave Wall: Have you been asked by the Church for an increase in rent?

Marilyn Hill: It is only a matter of time before we are asked for an increase.

Chairman: This was discussed at committee and all agreed with the proposals. By taking the initiative we hope it will help. The judgement made was that this would be the right time.

A vote was taken and an increase in rent was supported by a large majority.

Roy Bowen: We are still depending on making a profit in the annual.

Chairman: Agreed and it shows the impact of selling the tickets. We continually look at finances.

Ian Williams: The annual provides us with finance. We do not have the Pavilion next year and need to think forward on how we deal with this.

Marilyn Hill: I was going to bring this up under any other business. Everyone needs to give thought to this. Do we look for other revenue streams such as singing at shopping outlets?

Roy Bowen: We have used All Saints for an annual before.

Marilyn Hill: This and other options such as the Orangery will need considering. We will need to plan for next year.

John Jones: We have not increased subs, should we, as thinking ahead for next year?

Marilyn Hill: If the annual was not successful we would need to think of increasing subs next year.

Chairman: We have looked at this and continually monitor.

Roy Bowen: Why cannot we not put forward a subs increase now?

Chairman: Our general belief/judgement is that we are in a strong financial position for this year.

Roy Bowen: I would like to propose subs at £150.

Marilyn Hill: We must be mindful of the age profile of the choir and the cost of living.

Kelvin Isaac: The raffle gives £2 per week from each chorister.

Marilyn Hill: Currently this goes to the tour fund. We could split between the tour fund and the choir fund.

Phil Tew: Regulars are already paying at least £50 more each week.

Ian Williams: The tour subsidy is £100 per chorister, should we use this to keep subs down?

Dave Wall: Can we have more patrons?

Chairman: We can all look at this.

Fred Draper: On a Sunday morning only four people attend the Church. We are lucky to be able to use it. We need to bear this in mind when considering other options.

Viv Griffiths: Are we looking for an alternative venue? There are places around Porthcawl, some of which will charge less than current.

Marilyn Hill: Other organisations pay more. We continue to monitor and other venues are not always available on our nights. We also need to remember our storage requirements.

Kelvin Isaac: We may only be given short notice to vacate.

Malcolm Evans: Schools should also be looked at.

Marilyn Hill: Bear in mind school caretakers. We have not approached schools. We need to be mindful the Church has been very good to us.

Ian Williams: What is the point of looking now? We will get notice here and should look elsewhere if the need arises.

Marilyn Hill: Returning to the raffle. I propose we split the proceeds with Tuesdays going to the Current Account and Fridays going to the Tour Account. This was seconded by Mark Smith. A vote took place and unanimous support given for the proposal. To be effective immediately.

All recommendations in the Treasurers Report were given unanimous support.

Howard Evans: Proposed thanks to Marilyn Hill. This was supported by all present.

9 Auditors Report:

Kelvin Isaac: The accounts have been well set out, easy to follow and checked against bank and other statements. All is in order and I thank Marilyn for assisting me to carry out this work. I am happy to continue with this work.

MH

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position. Each nominee was unanimously elected.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder
Chairman	John Pearman	Phil Davies	Chris Davies
Vice Chairman	Adrian Powis	Noel Williams	John Mathias
Secretary	Noel Williams	Viv Griffiths	Ian Thomas
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	John Pearman	Phil Tew
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	Glenn White	Ian Thomas
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Marilyn Hill	Stan Hill
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Mark Smith	Haydn Wheeler
<u>Section Leaders</u>			
Top Tenor	Adrian Powis	Howard Evans	Phil Rowe
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	John Bevan	Rob Cotter
Baritone	Chris Davies	Stan Hill	Glenn White
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Stuart Phillips	Roy Bowen

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

Kelvin Isaac was prepared to help out for social events but did not wish to be on the committee. To maintain the existing constitution requirements, it was agreed that Kelvin Isaac be designated Events Co-Ordinator and not be a committee member.

11 Any Other Business:

Brian Raybould: Could we apply to sing at the Principality Stadium?

Chairman: This will be followed up in a committee meeting.

Malcolm Evans: Made reference to four choirs taking part at the week-end.

Ian Williams: Posters for the joint concert with Amici Cantate are available. This is our next income generating event.

Chairman: Please support this event and bring others along.

Marilyn Hill: We are in urgent need for raffle prizes for the evening.

Mark Smith: Amici Cantate would contribute to the concert and share any profit/loss. The afterglow would be at the Seabank.

Glenn White: Are we applying to sing at the Albert Hall?

Chairman: This will be followed up in a committee meeting.

Howard Evans: We did apply a few years ago and can follow up.

Alec Brookes: We need to be mindful of the programme.

NW

JP/MS

NW/MS

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Marilyn Hill: If we held on a Tuesday then we would have more attending.

Noel Williams: The Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the day.

Alec Brooks: Tuesday would be best kept for rehearsals as more choristers would be attending.

It was decided that the date of the next AGM would be Friday 16 February 2024.

Noel Williams – Secretary

BANK RECONCILIATION				
CURRENT ACCOUNT				
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2022			£4,642.18	
Plus cash in hand	NIL			
Less Unpresented Cheques	NIL			
				£4,642.18
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT				
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2022			£4,226.88	£4,226.88
TOUR FUND ACCOUNT				
Bank Statement as at 31st December 2022			£7,254.15	£7,254.15
BANK RECONCILIATION 31st December 2022	£16123.21			

M.S. Hill

Marilyn Hill - Treasurer

PORTHCAWL MALE CHOIR

27th

January 2023

J.K. Isaac

- Auditor

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
 Held at Arlington Road Church
 Friday 24 February 2023**

	Action
<p>1 Present: John Pearman (Chairman), Noel Williams (Secretary), Marilyn Hill (Treasurer), John Mathias (Vice-Chairman), Alec Brooks (Musical Director).</p> <p>Roy Bowen, Fred Draper, Mike Griffiths, Gareth Lewis, Brian Raybould.</p> <p>Chris Davies, Phil Davies, Stan Hill, Mark Smith, Lyn Sullivan, Phil Tew, Dave Wall, Glenn White.</p> <p>Rob Cotter, Malcolm Evans, Eddie Fearnley, Richard Harris, Kelvin Isaac, Jon Machin, Haydn Wheeler.</p> <p>Howard Evans, Viv Griffiths, John Jones, Phil Rowe, Dave Saunders, Ian Williams.</p>	
<p>2 Apologies: John Bevan, Chris Evans, Mike Francis, Ray Hooton, Colin Gronow, Laurence Hopkins, Owain Jones, Stuart Phillips, Adrian Powis, Ian Thomas, Mike Williams, John Wright.</p>	
<p>3 Adoption of Minutes: Adoption of Previous Minutes 18 March 2022 Proposed: Ian Williams Seconded: Mark Smith</p> <p>Adoption of Minutes 24 February 2023 Proposed: Lyn Sullivan Seconded: Fred Draper</p>	
<p>4 Matters arising from Minutes: Chairman: All actions from the minutes of the previous AGM have been completed.</p>	
<p>5 Notice of motion: Put forward by Kelvin Isaac: I propose that a paper ballot be taken by all choristers for the following:</p> <p>Do you wish that the choir proceed with taking part in funerals to 'outside personnel' i.e., no relations or friends of the choir. I would ask that a paper ballot be taken, rather than a show of hands – to find a 'true' feeling of choristers. This way they will not be intimidated or swayed by their peers.</p> <p>Proposed: Kelvin Isaac Seconded: Philip Davies</p> <p>Chairman: This has exercised our minds and we are conscious many have felt strongly. Originally attendance at funerals was confined to choristers/family. We like to play our part in the community to help people and give solace. We feel that if we have the availability of the musical team and sufficient choristers then we should attend these funerals and this appears to have worked well so far.</p> <p>Howard Evans: Should a vote take place beforehand to decide whether we should have a ballot?</p>	

A vote followed and a large majority supported the ballot.

Ian Williams: If there is a 'yes' majority, how do things change?

Chairman: We would leave to the understanding of choristers on whether to attend or not.

A paper ballot took place and the count was carried out by Noel Williams, Marilyn Hill and John Mathias.

YES 26 votes

NO 9 votes.

The ballot included the votes of some choristers who had given apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. The motion was duly passed and these minutes serve as a record of such.

Roy Bowen: Does the standard charge of £350 apply to non-choristers?

Marilyn Hill confirmed this charge.

Haydn Wheeler: Queried how the pianist turned up at the funeral earlier in the week and was not used?

Alec Brookes: Advised he had omitted to tell Laura Deenik that Mair Jones would be playing.

Marilyn Hill confirmed Laura Deenik would be paid.

Chairman: We should all try to attend funerals, but choristers would have the choice and not be forced into attending. It is a status quo of existing arrangements, with members aware of the supportive choir vote to the motion.

Howard Evans: What does the Constitution say?

Roy Bowen: What does the Members Handbook say?

Noel Williams: Reference made to the Model Constitution. Clause 2 in full states:

The objects of the Society shall be to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art and science of music in all its aspects by any means the trustees see fit, including through the presentation of public concerts and recitals.

There was no such reference in the Members Handbook.

The minutes record the passing of the ballot.

6 Chairmans Report:

Copied from prepared script.

In welcoming you all to this year's AGM I do so with a sense of deep gratitude for the commitment and support which has been given to the Choir over the past year. We now have 53 members, welcoming into the choir during 2022 John B Jones in the Top Tenor Section and our Quiz duo Chris Evans and Mike Francis in the Baritones. Of those leaving the Choir during the year our thoughts are with Dick Ashman, Dave Penny and Kelvin White who are not able to be with us through illness, and our thanks go to former long-serving choristers Ray Street and John Williams for their dedicated contributions over many years. Jason Edmonds and Brian Davies were also valued members for their short time with us.

Our memories may sometimes play tricks upon us. Did the COVID pandemic last for almost 2 years? Were the restrictions finally lifted in Autumn 2021? Did some Choir members keep in touch via ZOOM? Has COVID and its long-term aftermath impacted adversely upon the Choir? You may

remember my predecessor Roy (Bowen) expressing his hope that the Choir would come out of the COVID pandemic as strong as it went in. This hope, I believe, has been realised, with Choir events during 2022 being performed to a high standard and being warmly received by audiences across the community.

Our immediate priority in seeking to return to "normality" was to look forward to the organisation and arrangements for the annual concert at the Grand Pavilion in September, around which other events in the calendar would be scheduled. Confirmation of the booking of the talented classical guitar husband and wife duo "TROVATORI" had been received and early contact was made with staff at the Pavilion to establish the mechanism for ticket sales.

Marilyn returned from the Pavilion with the news that tickets would no longer be "on sale" at Reception. New systems in place with advances in digital technology meant that tickets from the Pavilion could only be purchased "on-line". This change to the system of ticket sales did in fact prove to be a defining moment for the Choir. We had to make sure that ticket purchase was available to Concert audience members across all age groups, conscious that many senior members were not familiar with new "on-line" systems. The Committee recommended that all Choir members should aim to sell a minimum of 5 tickets each. This proposal was supported by Choir members and the collective effort which followed ensured that we achieved an almost full house in what proved to be a wonderfully memorable concert. Marilyn will give details in her report of the financial benefit accrued from a successful annual concert in underpinning the annual accounts.

This commitment has been reflected in all other Choir events held during the year. April saw 80 Choir members and friends travel to the Isle of Wight for a very enjoyable tour, featuring a concert in St John's Church, Sandown. Our thanks to Mike (Williams) for the arrangements made to ensure the success of the week-end, whilst we also recall Mike's switch to motor-bike outrider consequent upon the sudden illness of his father. We trust Mike's successor as Concert Secretary, Mark, will not be seen in leathers enroute to Llandudno in June.

Closer to home during the year 2022 the Choir enjoyed a visit to Porthcawl Primary School on St. David's Day, sang outside Trinity Church on a very hot day on the occasion of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and filled the air-waves at the Newton Village Fayre. Autumn identifies the Choir with the Remembrance Day Service at All Saint's Church and then the busy but enjoyable Christmas was upon us. Events included concerts at the Albert Edward Court Masonic Home, All Saint's Church and The Grove for our traditional evening with the Stroke Club. Intertwined with these events were the social events where Ray (Hooton), who had previously organised a very successful "Race-Night" evening, arranged for the Choir to sing at the Globe in Newton and then the following week to relax at The Grove when some 80 members and friends enjoyed a splendid evening in the company of comedian Denis Laing. With Ray retiring from his post this year I would like to thank him for the detailed planning and attention to detail which has marked the success of events he has organised during his 4-year tenure as Social Secretary.

This dedication to the task in hand has been evident in the work undertaken by each member of the committee, recognising also how closely the responsibilities of one office holder is inter-related with those of another. We find Mark as Concert Secretary liaising carefully with Ian as Public Relations Officer and with Dave Wall as Programme Editor in a rapidly evolving age of new technology where new opportunities are continually opening up. I never cease to be amazed at the speed with which data on our Choir web-site is superseded by "visits" on Facebook where information is rapidly sought and exchanged. Our thanks to both Ian and Dave as they guide us patiently into the realms of new technology and to Mark for promoting the Choir so well on radio. May we also thank Ian for his liaison with Drs Rupert and Sarah Thurston who raised funds for the provision of a defibrillator for the Choir. Rob as Librarian, our Section Leaders Adrian, Jon, Chris and Gareth fulfil in their elected roles a duty of care which, I know is appreciated by all Choir members. Rob's care of music sheets is already becoming legendary, an all-round performance of which I know his predecessor Eddie is proud. Our Section Leaders provide a pastoral care, conscious of the well-being of their members and raising practical matters on the content and timing of meetings. Outside of committee but essential to the smooth running of concerts and finances, I thank Mark, Ian and Glenn for their duties in the Piano team and Chris for his time given before the start of each Choir Practice to make sure we have all bought our raffle tickets. The sterling work of Viv as Choir Marshall means so much to us all in maintaining good order and discipline in Choir concerts.

Our Ladies' Team has as ever supported us splendidly. We do hope that Jen feels that the men re-gained their spurs this year with the attendances at the "Bring and Buy" in Trinity Church Hall in the Summer. At Concert and at Social Events your presence and contributions are integral to the success of the Choir.

Our thanks as a Choir go to Brian (Willment) for enabling us to meet for practice at the Arlington Road Church. The Christmas concert held in the Church at Christmas is always very special to members and gives us an opportunity to pause in appreciation of the facilities made available over many years.

To my Vice-Chairman John, Secretary Noel and Treasurer Marilyn I extend my deepest thanks. John has been influential in establishing the Charitable status of the Choir, whilst his supportive role as Vice-Chairman has been immense. Noel's exemplary role as Secretary ensures that everyone is fully informed of committee meetings and on any matter impacting on Choir development and membership. His ability to produce and circulate comprehensive Minutes of meetings within days of their taking place is invaluable. Just as promptly at hand are the issue of Monthly and now the Annual Accounts. Marilyn is meticulous in preparation of the Accounts, which so clearly depict the financial state of the Choir and provide essential information for decision making. Marilyn's compilation is perhaps the tip of the ice-berg, for she does so much work in receiving donations from sponsors, advising on financial aspects of Choir tours and Choir bookings, as well as the routine matters of collecting subscriptions and issuing receipts.

May I turn finally to our Musical Team of Alec, Musical Director, Richard our Musical Accompanist and Agnes and Laura our Musical Accompanists. Music is a wonderful gift and we as a Choir are so grateful to Alec for his skillful musical direction and patient good humour and to Richard whose outstanding contributions as Accompanist have thrilled audiences. In support of Richard, we have Agnes Pottage a recipient of the Dilwyn Evans Memorial Prize this year and Laura Deenik, two young ladies whose rich talents at the piano give much confidence for the future. We are indeed fortunate to have such a talented team, following the legacy of our own gifted former Musical Director Mair who herself has continued to provide cover on request for the musical team during the year.

I look back on a year highlighted by a memorable Annual Concert and gratitude to a dedicated committee and supportive Choir that it has been a privilege to lead.

7 Musical Directors Report:

Alec Brooks: It has been a very enjoyable year and I look forward to attending the rehearsals as do all choristers. High points were the Isle of Wight Tour, the Annual Concert and the All Saints Concert. I am looking forward to the events we have planned for this year. Events have been well publicised on Facebook. I thank choristers for their support and also thanks to our accompanists.

8 Treasurers Report:

Copied from prepared script. Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022 given out separately.

After a full year we finished financial with £4642.18 current a/c, £4226.88 deposit a/c £7254.15, tour a/c a total of £16123.21.

The first thing of note is the main accounts show nearly the same balances as 2022

Starting with the tour account, the raffle brought in a very healthy £2738.43. My thanks have to go to Chris Davies for his work all year selling tickets.

The committee voted for a £100 subsidy per chorister for our tour to Llandudno, at the time of writing this there are 34 choristers on the tour.

Due to the new system at the Pavilion, we used the tour account to purchase the annual concert tickets, the account was restored to its correct balance by the year end in December.

The deposit account was increased by £9.19 interest earned.

The current account, subscriptions from 47 choristers and two life members. With donations from visitors and supporter of £180. we sang at 2 funerals £400. Concerts; Council for the jubilee £200 Globe at Xmas £230, our Xmas concert at All Saints £323.20, Masonic home £200 (2 years), Stroke club £100, RNLI life boat naming £100. Our socials the race night brought in £1167 and cleared £700 profit. The Christmas social was subsidized and in 2023 will break even due to a successfully raffle.

We have now paid Calon Heart for a defibrillator and our thanks to Dr Rupert Thurston for raising the money for us on social media after doing the Cardiff half marathon.

The rent is now £200 per month or £2400 a year. We didn't start paying until April thus the £1800.

Musical team cost was £8820 for the year.

Lastly of interest we had a storming Annual Concert, which gave us £4717 this made up the short fall in the yearly accounts. The audience was 493 and our drink raffle brought in £447. Again, thanks to you all for selling the tickets and the ladies' section for their all-round help. This year's concert is the 2nd September and the artist will be Mr Mike Doyle.

My thanks now go to your committee for their continuing support, to you the choristers for all your contribution. We now have charity status and can rattle the buckets at venues, we can claim gift aid on your subscription. If you have not submitted a form, please see me. The options for payments are the same standing orders is available, if paying direct please use the correct account, details on the board.

Now for the things you have been waiting for, I propose that subscription remain the same at £120 But I'm asking for your support to increase our musical team's fee. our musical director to increase by £10 per week and the accompanists £5 each per week i.e., £10 or £20 per week in total a yearly total of £980. They Have not had an increase since 2019. We have a wonderful team which we appreciate and don't want to lose.

The other increase is for the church we pay £2400 I would like to increase this by £20 per month being mindful of ongoing energy costs.

So, a quick round up, a good 1st full year back after COVID. Work being mainly in the last part of the year. I look forward to a financial fantastic annual concert, with the tickets being a much easier sell. I am privileged to be a member of a hard-working committee and I thank them all for their help and advice. But a special thanks to Kelvin for being our choir auditor again this year.

A discussion took place during the above presentation.

Dave Wall: Have you been asked by the Church for an increase in rent?

Marilyn Hill: It is only a matter of time before we are asked for an increase.

Chairman: This was discussed at committee and all agreed with the proposals. By taking the initiative we hope it will help. The judgement made was that this would be the right time.

A vote was taken and an increase in rent was supported by a large majority.

Roy Bowen: We are still depending on making a profit in the annual.

Chairman: Agreed and it shows the impact of selling the tickets. We continually look at finances.

Ian Williams: The annual provides us with finance. We do not have the Pavilion next year and need to think forward on how we deal with this.

Marilyn Hill: I was going to bring this up under any other business. Everyone needs to give thought to this. Do we look for other revenue streams such as singing at shopping outlets?

Roy Bowen: We have used All Saints for an annual before.

Marilyn Hill: This and other options such as the Orangery will need considering. We will need to plan for next year.

John Jones: We have not increased subs, should we, as thinking ahead for next year?

Marilyn Hill: If the annual was not successful we would need to think of increasing subs next year.

Chairman: We have looked at this and continually monitor.

Roy Bowen: Why cannot we not put forward a subs increase now?

Chairman: Our general belief/judgement is that we are in a strong financial position for this year.

Roy Bowen: I would like to propose subs at £150.

Marilyn Hill: We must be mindful of the age profile of the choir and the cost of living.

Kelvin Isaac: The raffle gives £2 per week from each chorister.

Marilyn Hill: Currently this goes to the tour fund. We could split between the tour fund and the choir fund.

Phil Tew: Regulars are already paying at least £50 more each week.

Ian Williams: The tour subsidy is £100 per chorister, should we use this to keep subs down?

Dave Wall: Can we have more patrons?

Chairman: We can all look at this.

Fred Draper: On a Sunday morning only four people attend the Church. We are lucky to be able to use it. We need to bear this in mind when considering other options.

Viv Griffiths: Are we looking for an alternative venue? There are places around Porthcawl, some of which will charge less than current.

Marilyn Hill: Other organisations pay more. We continue to monitor and other venues are not always available on our nights. We also need to remember our storage requirements.

Kelvin Isaac: We may only be given short notice to vacate.

Malcolm Evans: Schools should also be looked at.

Marilyn Hill: Bear in mind school caretakers. We have not approached schools. We need to be mindful the Church has been very good to us.

Ian Williams: What is the point of looking now? We will get notice here and should look elsewhere if the need arises.

Marilyn Hill: Returning to the raffle. I propose we split the proceeds with Tuesdays going to the Current Account and Fridays going to the Tour Account. This was seconded by Mark Smith. A vote took place and unanimous support given for the proposal. To be effective immediately.

All recommendations in the Treasurers Report were given unanimous support.

Howard Evans: Proposed thanks to Marilyn Hill. This was supported by all present.

9 Auditors Report:

Kelvin Isaac: The accounts have been well set out, easy to follow and checked against bank and other statements. All is in order and I thank Marilyn for assisting me to carry out this work. I am happy to continue with this work.

MH

10 Election of Officers:

With the exception of Social Secretary, a single nomination was received for each position. Each nominee was unanimously elected.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Second
Chairman	John Pearman	Phil Davies	Chris Davies
Vice Chairman	Adrian Powis	Noel Williams	John Mathias
Secretary	Noel Williams	Viv Griffiths	Ian Thomas
Treasurer	Marilyn Hill	John Pearman	Phil Tew
Concert Secretary	Mark Smith	Glenn White	Ian Thomas
Social Secretary			
Public Relations Officer	Ian Williams	Marilyn Hill	Stan Hill
Librarian	Robert Cotter	Mark Smith	Haydn Wheeler
<u>Section Leaders</u>			
Top Tenor	Adrian Powis	Howard Evans	Phil Rowe
Second Tenor	Jon Machin	John Bevan	Rob Cotter
Baritone	Chris Davies	Stan Hill	Glenn White
Bass	Gareth Lewis	Stuart Phillips	Roy Bowen

To contact Charity Commission to update trustee registrations.

Kelvin Isaac was prepared to help out for social events but did not wish to be on the committee. To maintain the existing constitution requirements, it was agreed that Kelvin Isaac be designated Events Co-Ordinator and not be a committee member.

11 Any Other Business:

Brian Raybould: Could we apply to sing at the Principality Stadium?

Chairman: This will be followed up in a committee meeting.

Malcolm Evans: Made reference to four choirs taking part at the week-end.

Ian Williams: Posters for the joint concert with Amici Cantate are available. This is our next income generating event.

Chairman: Please support this event and bring others along.

Marilyn Hill: We are in urgent need for raffle prizes for the evening.

Mark Smith: Amici Cantate would contribute to the concert and share any profit/loss. The afterglow would be at the Seabank.

Glenn White: Are we applying to sing at the Albert Hall?

Chairman: This will be followed up in a committee meeting.

Howard Evans: We did apply a few years ago and can follow up.

Alec Brookes: We need to be mindful of the programme.

NW

JP/MS

NW/MS

12 Date of Next Annual General Meeting:

Marilyn Hill: If we held on a Tuesday then we would have more attending.

Noel Williams: The Members Handbook states 'The AGM will normally be held on the third Friday of February each year, or as near to that date as possible.' The term 'normally' does give us the flexibility to change the day.

Alec Brooks: Tuesday would be best kept for rehearsals as more choristers would be attending.

It was decided that the date of the next AGM would be Friday 16 February 2024.

Noel Williams – Secretary

