

# TREORCHY MALE CHOIR



## BRIEF HISTORY 1955

By Dean Powell, Publicity Officer  
& Honorary Archivist

## JANUARY

**Saturday January 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Salem Chapel, Llwynypia**

The opening concert of the year was held in Llwynypia to raise funds for Salem Chapel. Tenor Haydn Parfitt and bass Harry Price joined the Choir on stage.

## FEBRUARY

**Wednesday February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Rehearsal Room, Treorchy**

The Choir recorded a broadcast for the BBC Overseas Service.

## MARCH

**Thursday March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Sophia Gardens, Cardiff**

The Choir appeared in a celebrity St David's Day broadcast from Sophia Gardens featuring amongst others Mervyn Johns, Hugh Griffith, Rachel Thomas, Dai Dower, Wilfred Wooler, Petula Clark, Donald Houston and the BBC Welsh Orchestra. The Choir shared the stage with the Penarth Ladies Choir.

**Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Moriah Chapel, Pentre**

A fundraising concert was held for chapel funds in Moriah, Pentre. Soloists for the evening were Agnes Jenkins-Griffiths and boy soprano Master J. Esau.

**Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Workmen's Hall, Abertridwr**

A concert for the Rhondda Regalia Fund was held in Abertridwr featuring soloists John Davies (baritone) and Haydn Parfitt (tenor).

**Thursday March 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Hermon Chapel, Treorchy**

Another chapel fundraising concert, this time in Treorchy with soloists Haydn Parfitt and Agnes Jenkins-Griffiths

## APRIL

**Thursday April 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Central Hall, Tonypany**

The Mid Rhondda Ladies Choir organised a fundraising concert in Tonypany featuring the Choir. Joining them on their first visit to the Central Hall was mezzo soprano Constance Shacklock and tenor Gerald Davies.

**Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup>**

**English Congregational Church, Porth**

A concert was held to raise funds for the restoration of the church. Joining the Choir was Harry Price and Haydn Parfitt.

## MAY

**Tuesday May 10<sup>th</sup>**

**Rehearsal Room, Treorchy**

The Choir made its second television appearance on a programme called “And Now To The Rhondda”.

**Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup>**

**Polikoff Canteen, Trreorchy**

The Choir broadcast “Canwn Oll Yn Llon” for the BBC Home Service.

**Thursday May 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Blaencwm Chapel, Treherbert**

A fundraising concert was held in aid of the Fernhill and Ty Draw Fire Distress Fund featuring Norma Davies and Agnes Jenkins Griffiths.

## JUNE

**Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Cory Hall, Cardiff**

The Choir broadcast “Songs for Everyone” for the BBC.

## JULY

**Wednesday July 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Park & Dare Theatre, Treorchy**

A concert was organised by the Treorchy School to feature the Choir and the school’s Junior Band.

**Sunday July 31<sup>st</sup>**

**The Pavilion, Porthcawl**

Soprano Betti Jones and baritone Gwilym Rees James joined the Choir for their return performance in Porthcawl.

## AUGUST

**Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Ynysangharad War Memorial Park, Pontypridd**

Organised by the Pontypridd Urban District Council, the Choir sang at the Park with soloists Sam Griffiths and Haydn Parfitt.

## SEPTEMBER

**Sunday September 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Parc & Dare Institute, Cwmparc**

A dedication and unveiling service was held of the Treorchy & Cwmparc War Memorial. Also featured in the service was the Parc & Dare Junior Band with their conductor Ieuan Morgan.

**Friday September 16<sup>th</sup>**

**Reardon Smith Lecture Theatre, Cardiff**

Organised by the Chartered Insurance Institute the concert in Cardiff also featured Agnes Jenkins-Griffiths.

**OCTOBER**

**Thursday October 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Carmel Congregational Chapel, Penrhiwceiber**

A concert was held to raise funds for the National Eisteddfod of Wales to be held in Aberdare in 1956. The Choir shared the stage with Haydn Parfitt, Sam Griffiths and harpist & penillion singer Alun Davies.

**NOVEMBER**

**Tuesday November 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Carmel Chapel, Treherbert**

BBC organist Sandy MacPherson joined the Choir in a concert to raise funds for the YMCA War and National Service Fund.

**Friday November 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Cory Hall, Cardiff**

The Choir broadcast its first "Friday Night Is Music Night"

**Thursday November 24<sup>th</sup>**

**St Peter's Church, Pentre**

Following months of preparation, the Choir performed, for the first time in the Rhondda, Cherubini's "Requiem in D Minor" at St Peter's Church, Pentre. Also performing was Sam Griffiths and Haydn Parfitt.

**DECEMBER**

**Tuesday December 6<sup>th</sup>**

**BBC Studios, Charles Street, Cardiff**

The Choir appeared on the BBC "Welsh Magazine" programme which also featured Master of Ceremonies J.C.Griffiths Jones. A number of Choir personnel and friends were interviewed including John Haydn Davies, Donna Griffiths, Edward Knapgate, David Jones and Olwen Bobbett.

**Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Ainon Hall, Tonyrefail**

The Choir held a fundraising concert with Sam Griffiths and Haydn Parfitt towards the Tonyrefail OAP Group.

**Monday December 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Temple of Peace, Cardiff**

The Choir broadcast a BBC Christmas Day Programme

**Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Cory Hall, Cardiff**

The Choir appeared on the BBC “Sing Out The Old, Sing in The New” For New Year’s Eve.