



Robert Griffiths

Second Bass 1953-2009, Long Service Member, Life Member, Committee Man 1968-1970; 1979-1983, Vice Chairman 1972-1974, Chairman 1985-1987; 1997-2000; Fifty Years Member; Vice President 2009

July 13th 1930 - June 5th 2009

The Choir was deeply saddened to hear of the death of Robert "Bob" Griffiths at home in Wales while they were undertaking their tour of Australia and New Zealand. It was in a theatre in Christchurch on the South Island of New Zealand that the very emotional choristers gathered to pay their respects and remember a stalwart member of the Choir.

Despite his long illness, Bob remained faithful to "his Treorchy" and collectively we shall miss him greatly. Bob was indeed a major component in the history of the post-war Choir, the epitome of a first-class chorister who will indeed be sadly missed by us all. His total dedication, faithfulness and exceptional hard work on behalf of the Choir was apparent to one and all; while his tall, slight figure was a trademark feature of the Second Bass section for almost sixty years.

Bob was proud to call himself a Pentre Grammar Schoolboy. He was a talented athlete in his youth and a noted football player before enjoying a long career in engineering. The younger brother of baritone soloist Sam Griffiths, it was obvious that Bob would one day follow in his footsteps and join the "new" Treorchy Male Choir under the baton of John Haydn Davies. He did so in 1953 and apart from his time spent in National Service, enjoyed an unbroken service of over five decades.

As a chorister, his knowledge of music and tonic solfa was exceptional and he was a solid pillar of his section. However, Bob was also a guiding light in the administrative functions of the

organisation and served as a Second Bass Committeeman for two terms, a Vice Chairman for two years and was also Chairman for three separate terms. During his tenure as Chairman he led the Choir on their successful overseas tours of Canada in 1985 and Australia in 1986 and 1999. He was also the Choir's Stage Marshall for many years and carried out his duties with total professionalism at all times.

Bob was made a Life Member of the Treorchy Male Choir in 1980 and received a gold watch in recognition of his fifty years service in 2003. Only a few weeks ago the Management Committee decided to award him the position of Vice President of the Choir at this year's Annual Concert.