

IN MEMORY OF TREVOR

Trevor Barr Village Voices Musical Director January 2018 to July 2022

Trevor was a wonderfully talented pianist, organist and choirmaster having studied at Keele University where he was the University Organ Scholar and read Music and American Studies.

After a period of postgraduate study, Trevor began to teach, firstly in Bristol at the famous Queen Elizabeth's Hospital and then at Warwick School, where he served as Director of Music for 16 years. He retired in 2017 as Director of Music at Perrott Hill, a rural Prep School in South Somerset.

His music touched so many lives and endeared him to so many people, not just Village Voices. He had a distinctive ability to teach and work with musicians and choristers of all ages and talents, from the complete novice to accomplished performers. Through humour and gentle persuasion, he encouraged them to perform to the very best of their ability.

Trevor had a unique style all his own. Unconventional, irreverent at times, stubborn, demanding, yet also loving, considerate and empathetic. All these characteristics were rolled into one to make his distinctive personality. Choir rehearsals under his leadership were a joy. He had an endless supply of jokes and anecdotes, and we would always leave rehearsals on a high. Trevor was Musical Director of Village Voices from January 2018 until July 2022.

As an inspirational MD he took the choir to new heights. Under his musical guidance we performed many uplifting concerts, with a varied repertoire of popular, classical, and religious music. In 2019, he was very proud to take the choir to his hometown of Londonderry where we spent a wonderful weekend of singing and sightseeing.

In 2020, inspired and influenced by the success of The King's Singers, Trevor founded [The Queen's Singers](#). Under his artistic direction, they held their inaugural concert in Warwick on 27th June 2021. Shortly before he died Trevor travelled to Bogota to work with the Schola Cantorum at the Catedral Primada de Colombia. He readily shared his enthusiasm and talent at home or abroad.

Trevor died suddenly on 20th July 2022 and is sorely missed. We give thanks for the time he spent with Village Voices and delight in the influence and lasting impact he has had on our choir. However, Trevor didn't dwell on tragedy. His philosophy was "life goes on" and in that spirit, Village Voices is moving on as he would wish us to do. In the meantime, we hope that this testimony will serve as a fitting tribute to a remarkable man and that it will encourage and inspire future MDs and choir members to maintain a lively and enthusiastic home at Village Voices for all those who want to sing.