

# Board Nominee Information – EGM 17th July 2019

## OFFICERS:

### Chairman - Dr Rhys Davies



It's been a great honour to chair the Eisteddfod over the last few years. Challenging at times, but it's been worthwhile to see the Eisteddfod evolve and indeed it must continue to do so to develop our unique International Musical Eisteddfod, a Peace festival where Wales meets the world. We need to develop events that are unique and that includes the daytime offering to increase our audience.

By now I think I've come to understand the workings of the Eisteddfod and I am under no illusion that there are difficult times ahead. With the benefit of an excellent team of employed and volunteer staff we are developing exciting plans for the future.

I am passionate about the Eisteddfod and want to see it continue successfully for many years to come. I would be happy to continue as Chairman for the next three years.

### Vice Chairman - Keith Potts



I have been a volunteer for many years now and the forthcoming Eisteddfod will be my 43rd. I have spent most of my time with the Tickets Committee starting as a messenger at the age of four. I did have a few years off from duty when I had my motorcycle accident but soon got back into things when I returned.

I became the Tickets Committee Chairman around 2004 and after a few years I oversaw the implementation of a new Box Office system. This was to make it easier to account for ticket sales and help us sell tickets on the Internet.

It was about this time I stood for the Board. I have been on since 2005 and was lucky enough to be elected to Vice Chairman of the Eisteddfod four years ago. I had decided to stand down this year to make way for someone new but after talking to colleagues they have convinced me to stay on and help the Eisteddfod through this difficult time.

I am therefore offering myself up for re-election to the Board and the Vice Chairman's role and would appreciate your support.

## Treasurer - Paul Coleman



I live next to Valley Crucis Abbey and, despite being a newly arrived incomer (living there for only the last 20 or so years), I have actively involved myself with a number of charitable activities in the area. I was a church treasurer for 10 years and so have a first-hand knowledge of charity accounting and reporting requirements at a practical level. My professional background is in Tax: a senior Tax Inspector in London City Districts (15 years); deputy director of Tax Investigation Services to a city Accountants (8 years); being a partner in my own firm in Chemsford (10 years); and, working on my own account thereafter. I therefore have a thorough grounding in analysis of accounts and examination of records and think of myself

being financially literate.

From formal training my key professional skill is understanding the implications of accounts and determining what steps need to be taken to prudently meet reporting and operational requirements. The tax investigation work has required me to grasp the essentials of businesses and negotiate with senior HMRC Inspectors. These skills are easily transferrable to meet LIME financial management requirements.

My Eisteddfod experience has been as Treasurer for the past 5 years with 13 years on the Finance Committee. The highlights of my Eisteddfod experience have been: leading the Llangollen input to the successful 2012 Commonwealth Carnival held in Westminster Hall; and helping to update the accounting for ticket sales through Penddol and Town End ticket offices before this was fully computerised. During my time as Treasurer, I have tried to use my role as a Board Officer to improve structure and procedures throughout the organisation. I have strived to be even-handed and properly consultative without pressing a personal agenda. I hope that I can serve you further as Treasurer.

## **BOARD MEMBERS:**

### Morag Webb



As with many local people, I don't remember not being involved in the Eisteddfod. In 1974 I first joined my mother in the flower tent, and have remained a member of the Floral Committee ever since. While at school in Dinas Bran, I was an Usher and Steward. Since then I have periodically acted as translator, and hosted visiting competitors. Most importantly, I am a keen member of the audience. I'm also proud that my husband and children have become active Eisteddfod enthusiasts and volunteers.

My career is in international development. This has involved extensive travel, mainly in South America and Africa, as well as periods living abroad. For the past 14 years I have been

employed by COLEACP, a French private sector association that implements European Development Fund (EU) technical assistance programmes. We help Africa-Caribbean-Pacific (ACP) companies to access global markets. As Policy Adviser for COLEACP, my role is to help develop and orientate overall strategy, monitor progress, conduct corporate outreach, and provide specialist expertise in EU food safety regulations and standards. It involves networking with both EU (EC) and ACP government and private sector players.

Further to this I volunteer as governor in Ysgol Dinas Bran and am a trustee of our local village hall. I also spent 8 years as an independent member of North Wales Police Authority. This meant contributing to development of the overall Force mission and strategic plans as well as monitoring performance, setting the budget, and holding the Force to account. I had particular responsibilities for oversight in diversity and public protection.

I hope that this experience would enable me to bring useful knowledge and skills to the role of trustee of the Eisteddfod

### Ian Lebbon



I have enjoyed volunteering for the International Eisteddfod since my schooldays in Llangollen when I was first appointed as an usher and introduced to our own International World.

I was elected Chair of the former Publicity Committee in 1995 and subsequently Chair of the newly formed Marketing Committee which it replaced in 2011. It has been my privilege to serve as a Standing Board member since 2000.

My extensive interests in tourism include being elected Chair of the Destination Denbighshire Tourism Partnership and a Member of the North Wales Regional Tourism Forum – both of which have given me the opportunity to promote the Eisteddfod as the premier international music festival which it is.

My professional career has been spent in the public sector and included extensive senior management experience of a large corporate directorate. During this period I furthered my education by completing an MBA.

My direct managerial responsibilities included -

- Organisational, personnel, administrative and financial functions.
- Political advising and reporting.
- Strategic project planning and management.
- Technical and specific knowledge.
- Contract negotiation, management and scrutiny.
- Business planning and monitoring.
- Committee administration.
- Major grant and funding applications.
- Policy formulation and implementation.

My committee experience has also included membership of a wide range of professional committees both at national (e.g. Local Government Management Board - Data Protection) and regional (e.g. OFTEL Wales Advisory Committee on Telecommunications) levels.

I believe that I have the necessary skills and experience to serve as a bilingual member of the Standing Board and the commitment and dedication to work towards the production of successful Eisteddfodau in the years to come.

I would be honoured to be elected and would continue to apply the same hard work, enthusiasm and sense of humour that as volunteers we all share towards our own Eisteddfod.

## Jeremy Davies



I have been involved with the Eisteddfod for over ten years, up to 2015 as a regular visitor. When work priorities eventually permitted I joined the Eisteddfod Stage Crew, my first full year being 2015, following in the footsteps of my son and my wife who have been volunteering in Music and Staging since 2008 and 2009 respectively. Prior to volunteering full time I also helped out with a couple of the Christmas concerts. In 2017 I was promoted to Stage Right Supervisor, in recognition of my skills and experience gained, and I was further promoted in 2018 to Assistant Stage Manager. In addition to my Stage Crew activities I have also been an active member of Music and Staging committee since 2016 and the Delivery group since 2017, and I have also been involved in the Health and Safety Working group since its inception in late 2017. I have also been involved with the Eisteddfod as a competitor and performer, as part of the Fron Male Voice Choir, which gives me a valuable insight into the staging requirements from both a Stage Crew and performer's perspective.

Outside Eisteddfod I am an Engineering Manager of twenty years standing in the Automotive industry, having worked at Jaguar Land Rover and Bentley Motors. Currently I am Powertrain Launch Manager for JLR at the Wolverhampton Engine Centre