

## In Memoriam Tim Evans

I received the sad news of Tim Evans's death last week from a heart attack at the age of 58, and thought some in the choir, and some friends of the choir, would like to remember his brief but positive role in Escafeld's history.

He was appointed my second in department at Brook School in 1981 and proved to be a remarkably able and well-liked teacher. One of his qualities was shown by his superb handling of the school choir in his second Christmas there. Escafeld Chorale (then the Fossdale Singers) was being conducted by me, but my professional and family commitments were making the role difficult for me, and besides, he was a much better conductor.

I gave him a lift one day and asked him if he was interested in being our musical director, and he said he was sorry, but he was also too busy. However, he knew someone who would probably jump at the chance. That person's name was Fran Wells.

Tim and Fran were good friends and Tim sang memorably in a Haydn Mass, and then in Mozart's *Requiem* at St Marie's Cathedral. He also helped out as an emergency extra tenor in *Jesu Meine Freude*, for which Fran has always expressed much gratitude. Tim then went on to have a successful career as a professional tenor, eventually settling in Germany.

A lesser-known fact about Tim is that he was an expert welder and repairer (usually successful) of old cars. This inspired at least two members of the choir to go on welding courses themselves and do their own welding. One such repaired car sometimes carries our conductor's podium.

I will close by saying that working with Tim was a privilege, that I have seldom met such a cheerful and positive man, and that I feel deeply for his wife and children at this sad time.

*Steve Draper*

*12 September 2019*