

## OUR NEWEST VOICES



### **AIDAN HASLAM (tenor)**

Aidan is a medic with specialising in blood cancers, currently doing a Phd at the Uni of Birmingham studying myeloma.

From the north of England, he moved to Birmingham ‘for love’ to join Katie (also a singer in the choir) & they married this summer. (This makes them the 5<sup>th</sup> couple both singing in the choir!)

Trained as a musician, mainly as a cellist and saxophonist, he was also a singer-chorister (York Minster) and then studied at Chetham’s School of Music (Manchester). Climbing, mountaineering and swing dancing are his other interests all fighting for his time.

He says Katie persuaded him to re-engage with singing:

*“I’m hugely enjoying the choir, people are really welcoming and there is a great mix of repertoire”*



### **CHRIS PARKES (baritone)**

Chris had a full musical background playing cello & double bass in orchestras and as a chorister at Lichfield Cathedral, then moving to Wells Cathedral on a scholarship. But he opted for a career outside music training as a cabinet maker & designer (studying fine arts at Rycotewood College & furniture design at Leeds) then established his own business specialising in period properties (working with the NT, English Heritage & church Trusts).

Originally from Sutton Coldfield he moved around the UK, always pursuing his love of walking & mountaineering. After a serious rock climbing accident 3 years ago he decided, during his long hospitalisation, to move back to Birmingham to be closer to family. The accident put paid to orchestral playing but not singing: he joined after hearing a performance.

*“Singing has become a passion for me. I’m really excited to now be in this choir. I have been made to feel very welcome within the choir and am looking forward to learning and performing some of the beautiful choral works within their repertoire”*