

Happy New Year to everyone!

Weekly update for Sunday 6 January 2019

Rehearsal reminders plus date of February extra rehearsals

Our next rehearsal will be on Tuesday 8 January 2019, when we will rehearse the Bach. Links to the rehearsal notes and links to YouTube recordings and practice tapes are on the chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#) (password reminder at the end of each update).

Please don't forget your membership card for swiping in, so that Darius won't have to manually enter you from the written attendance list – he has enough to do! No need to send apologies under the new system, but if you do have anything to report please see your Voice Rep in the first instance. However, don't forget that Darius would prefer everyone to attend all rehearsals, even if they not able to sing in the concert, so that the whole Chorus can benefit from the training provided at the rehearsals.

The extra February rehearsals of the B Minor Mass will be on Saturday 16 February 2019 from 10.30 to 13.00 and from 14.00 to 16.30. NB. These count, as two rehearsals, towards the Minimum Attendance Requirement, so those who can't attend due to half term please be aware.

Rachel Copley awarded the British Empire Medal

Fantastic news for those who haven't heard - our marvellous President Rachel Copley was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year Honours, for 'services to Music Charities and to the community in South Yorkshire'! Congratulations Rachel – we always knew you are a special star but it's nice to see you being recognised in this way! Rachel was interviewed on BBC Radio Sheffield on New Years Day morning, and there articles in the local press including the [Rotherham Advertiser](#) and the [Doncaster Free Press](#). Here's the link to the [official announcement in the Gazette](#) (official public record). The News item is on the Chorus website in [About Us / News](#).

Christmas concert – messages and feedback

Rehearsals for Brahms German *Requiem* - Monday 7 and 14 January 2018

Thank you to those who have offered to sing Brahms German *Requiem* with Sheffield Bach Choir on Saturday 5th October 2019 in Sheffield Cathedral. The first rehearsals of the Brahms motets *Warum ist das licht gegeben dem Mühseligen* and *Geistliches Lied*, also on the programme, are on Monday 7 and 14 January at Cemetery Road Baptist Church at 7.30 pm; access is on Napier Street. Singers don't need to attend all the rehearsals, especially if they know the works, but attendance at a decent number including these two would be appreciated. The remaining rehearsals will be on 24 June and 1 July 2019 and then from 2 September 2019 until the concert on 5 October 2019.

If you would like to sing there is still time to sign up; tenors please contact Nigel Wright wrightnigel@yahoo.com ; ladies please contact Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org.

Membership Cards and Subscriptions (attachment)

Thanks to the many members who have completed this season's membership subscription form and arranged payment. For those yet to pay, Graham Dawson will be pleased to receive your forms and notice of payment so he can provide new membership cards at rehearsals.

All members need to complete a new subscription form even if you have a continuing standing order or have already paid. Hard copies are available from Graham, or please print the attached form. Members can pay by cash, cheque, bank transfer or monthly standing order (full details

are on the form). If any member has difficulty with paying their subscription, please consult with Graham over possible options. We have a reduced rate for those who are unemployed or on a low income. If you owe some subscription fees from last year, add the outstanding amount into the figures on this year's form. Membership cards will be issued on receipt of a completed form – and cash/cheque if paying by that method.

Ticket sales

Bach B Minor Mass – 542 (target 1300, capacity 2000)

Bochum trip

The trip is being organized by Graham Dawson – many thanks Graham – and arrangements are in hand. Please let Graham know if your circumstances have changed and you are now unable to go – or if you would now like to. If some people drop out, others may be able to go in their place but Graham needs to know sooner rather than later. Graham needs contact details, travel and accommodation plans. Various trips are being organized, eg Bonn, Essen, monorail trip etc.

Rehearsal attendance new procedure – see chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#)

Upcoming classical concerts are on the Chorus website, [Members Area / For information](#)

Upcoming Singing Opportunities at [Members' Area / For information / Singing Opportunities](#)

Diary Dates See the Chorus website at [Members Area / Diary dates](#).

Chorus website

Information about concert arrangements, future dates, our official stage procedure, Darius' rehearsal schedule, re-auditions, where to get rehearsal tracks etc. can be found on the chorus website, in the Member's Area in particular. The website is available at <http://sheffieldphil.org> or via a Google search. If taken to an error page it is likely that your computer or laptop has stored the old website in its memory (cache) and you should clear it by pressing REFRESH, or F5 on your PC keyboard. Alternatively it may be that your router needs re-setting; try turning it off for 10 minutes before switching it on again. If none of this works please contact Anne Adams in the first instance, and she will inform the webmasters Matthew Morgan and Bill Best. The chorus user name is member and the password is dariu5; these are for chorus members only so please don't share them.

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org