

Important message for those singing Brahms with Sheffield Bach Choir – see below

Weekly update for Monday 17 June 2019 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

This is the final update of the season, thank you for all your hard work, have a good rest and a great summer, see you in September (maybe look at Rutter's *Gloria*? See below)

Next rehearsal

Hope you remembered not to go to KES last week! There are no more rehearsals until Tuesday 3 September 2019, when Els would like you to return your music - with markings rubbed out please. We start next season with Rutter's *Gloria* which we are recording with the Black Dyke Band on Monday 21 October 2019 in St Oswald's Church, Bannerdale Road, Sheffield. We will also start rehearsing for an 'After Hours' concert on Saturday 9 November 2019 in the City Hall ballroom, programme to include Scandinavian and Baltic music.

Links to rehearsal tracks and YouTube recordings of Rutter's *Gloria* are already on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

The Holy Face concert feedback

Thank you to everyone who went to the Holy Face concert on Sunday afternoon, whether to sing or support the Chorus. Thank you particularly for making the visitors feel so welcome, our friendliness was much commented on, which is great. Thanks James for sorting all those people on the choir risers – quite a feat - and Helen for organising a great get together afterwards.

In the end we sold around 450 tickets, 80 of which (17%) were free to the ticket holder via the offer sent to schools, the Music Hub and Music Academy and the training bands.

There were lots of positive comments from those who attended. Phil Wilby was over the moon, Maggie said she loved it and thought everything came together really well. Nigel really enjoyed it and thought we sounded super. Here are some of the written comments we've received.

Philip Wilby (email): *'It was a splendid occasion, and very well received.... by composer and audience alike. The ending of 'The Holy Face' was especially well sung, as many observed. Perhaps you might pass on my warmest thanks to the choristers, who were marvellous advocates for a long and complex piece. Soloists and band were predictably brilliant also..... who guessed that we would have applause after the (slow!) second movement?It just shows you what the North of England can pull out of the bag when it wants. Life affirming! Best to all, Phil Wilby'*

Darius: *'I thought it was a great performance and everyone seemed delighted with it.'*

Catrin Pryce-Jones (soprano soloists via email): *'Thank you for this message and thank you for having me! I thoroughly enjoyed my little trip to Sheffield and making music in such a wonderful venue with so many fantastic musicians! Best wishes, Catrin'*

Emma Stannard (alto soloist via Twitter): *'Thank you so much for having me - it was a very special concert! X'* and by email: *'Thank you so muchfor inviting me to be part of this special occasion. I thoroughly enjoyed the concert and sincerely hope I may have the opportunity to sing with the Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus again in the future. All best wishes, Emma'*

Halifax Choral Society (via Twitter): *'Thank you for inviting us to sing with you at such a spectacular venue and giving us such a warm welcome. Hope to make music with you all again soon.'*

Alison North MBE (Yorkshire Youth Choir via Twitter): *'It was a terrific concert. I thoroughly enjoyed it and (daughter) Madeleine really enjoyed being part of it. Congratulations'*

Trisha Cooper (BBC): *'What a wonderful concert! Thank you so much for including me. It was lovely to meet Philip again on such a special occasion. Have a great summer. Trisha'*

Felicity Goodliffe (former member soon to re-join us): *'I came to the concert this afternoon and brought Stella (second alto for 50+ years). We both really enjoyed it. It was moving, uplifting and so varied. It must have been a joy to sing. Three choirs (though we couldn't see how many there were from the Youth choir as we were directly underneath them) and the Black Dyke- what's not to like!!!'*

Tom Redmond (BBC Radio 3 and our next carol concert presenter): *'Hope it was a great performance. Looking forward to Christmas!'*

Paul Mealor (via Twitter): *'How did it go? Wish I could have been there! [#Paradise](#)'*

Parent in audience (via email): *'We all enjoyed the concert very much. It was a first for the children to see Black Dyke playing live and also to see an oratorio being performed, so a great experience for them. The children now have some very high standards to aspire to in their brass playing!'*

Parent in audience (via email): *'We all enjoyed the concert lots. The band were amazing!'*

Brass player in audience (via Twitter): *'Great concert thanks to everyone taking part'*

Bochum trip – last chance for names please!

In December we hope to get a party together to return to Bochum to take part in their family Christmas concert. Provided we can get enough singers and a reasonable balance between the different voices, we can do a 15 minutes slot in their concert, which lasts about an hour. They're very keen for us to take part. We imagine that we will perform some of the music from our own Christmas concert on Saturday 14 December, for which we'd aim to be back in time to attend.

If you would like to go, the concert is on 8th December in their new glorious concert hall where some of us sang the Messiah with them last year. One incentive that they're keen to point out is their famous Christmas markets!

There are lots of travel options e.g. flights to nearby Dusseldorf or Dortmund, Eurostar to Brussels and onward train to Bochum via Cologne, car ferries - Bochum is 3 hours drive from Rotterdam Europoort etc. Additionally, Bochum choir members are very happy to provide accommodation for those that wish.

If you would like to go on the trip to Bochum, please let Graham Dawson or Chairman Paul Henstridge know as soon as possible. chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Important message for those singing Brahms German Requiem with Sheffield Bach Choir

This is to remind you that there will be two rehearsals at the end of the season to rehearse the Brahms. These will be on Monday 24th June and Monday 1st July at 7.30pm. Please try to attend if you can; the rehearsals will be at the Cemetery Road Baptist Church. **IMPORTANT MESSAGE for those using the car park at Waitrose:** on arrival each week you will need to report to the welcome desk in Waitrose store and say that you are joining the Sheffield Bach Choir at a meeting in Cemetery Road Baptist Church and give in your car registration. If you do not do this each week you are liable to a rather hefty fine!

Maggie singing in Chetham's Mahler 8 at Bridgewater Hall Friday 5 July 2019

Members might like to hear Mahler's magnificent 8th Symphony in Manchester this July, as a prelude to our performance at the end of the coming season – and Maggie features as one of the soprano soloists. Chetham's School of Music is presenting the Mahler 8 at the Bridgewater Hall on Friday 5 July at 7pm, to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Stephen Threlfall will conduct this, his last UK concert as Director of Music after 24 years at the helm. Joining Maggie as soloists will be Ailish Tynan, Gweneth Ann Rand and Caroline Taylor (sopranos), Kitty Whately (mezzo soprano), Mark le Brocq (tenor), and Gareth John (baritone). Chetham's Symphony Orchestra will be augmented by guest players, while the choir will be made up of Chetham's Chorus, Leeds Festival Chorus, St George's Singers, Greater Manchester Hub Youth Choir, Manchester Cathedral Choristers and Hereford Cathedral School Children's Choir. The performance will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 on Wed 10 July 2019.

Piano concert for mindfulness

Peter Fagerlind will play Bach, Beethoven, Satie and Mozart from 8pm to 9pm in St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Upper Hanover Street, on Friday 5 July 2019. Free for under 18s, suggested donation £7.

What to do if your contact details change

Please send a message to emailchange2019@sheffieldphil.org to ensure that your details are amended on the Membership database and that you continue to receive the weekly update.

Diary Dates

Monday 21 October 2019 Rutter *Gloria* with Black Dyke Band (recording for their next CD)

Saturday 9 November 2019, After Hours concert, City Hall ballroom, Scandinavian and Baltic music (SICS)

Sunday 8 December 2pm: St Luke's Carol, Service, Sheffield Cathedral

Early December 2019: Optional trip to Bochum, to sing in their Christmas concert on Sunday 8 December. Accommodation from Bochum Choir members. Christmas markets everywhere!

Saturday 14th December 2019 2pm and 5.30pm: Christmas Concerts, City Hall, (SICS)

Saturday 18 April 2020 7pm: *Messiah* with Black Dyke Band plus visitors from Bochum and Perigueux choirs. Victoria Hall Sheffield (self funded)

Saturday 2nd May 2020 7pm: Verdi's *Requiem* with the Halle, City Hall (SICS). Piano rehearsal either Thursday 30 April or Friday 1 May

Saturday 20 June 2020: Mahler 8 with Wrexham Symphony Orchestra, Bridgewater Hall (invitation)

Diary dates are listed on the Chorus website well in advance so members can plan their activities, at [Members Area / Diary dates](#). Dates for 2020-21 have started to be added, so keep your eye on this page.

For example we have accepted an invitation to sing Mahler 2 on Sunday 7 March 2021 in the City Hall with Hallam Choral Society, Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra and the Hallam Sinfonia, conducted by George Morton.

Singing opportunities

Brahms German Requiem on Saturday 13 July 2019 in Sheffield (Music Academy performance)

Details for these and other opportunities are on the Chorus website at [Members' Area / For information / Singing Opportunities](#)

Weekly updates and the Chorus website

If ever you don't receive the weekly update, it is uploaded every week in [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#). The chorus user name is the same for every member, it's the word *member* and the password is *dariu5*. These are for chorus members only so please don't share them. However, urgent messages such as rehearsal venue changes are always listed above the log-in box so members can read the important part without logging in.

The Members Area of the website lists all the information included in the update, eg rehearsal details, rehearsal notes and links to recordings, concert and re-audition arrangements, as well as dates for the following season, our official stage procedure, Darius' rehearsal schedule, how to look after your voice etc.

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.

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org