

Remember Tuesday is Bring a Man Night!

Read on for: Rehearsal details including **carol concert running order**; revised schedule and rehearsal tracks / recordings for **Christmas and Messiah**; **Bring a Man Night**; **AGM**; Plea to accommodate French/German visitors; **Margaret Staniforth funeral**; **Come Sing Messiah**; **Diary dates, Password, Contact emails**

Weekly update Sunday 10 November 2019 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal (attachment)

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 12 November in the Upper School. We will be rehearsing Messiah in the first half and Christmas music in the second – so please don't forget to bring your own copy of Messiah! The list of carols and running order for the Christmas concert is attached, and also on the website at [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#), along with the arrangements so far for the Christmas carol concerts.

Revised rehearsal schedule, practice tracks and rehearsal notes

Darius has updated the 2019-20 rehearsal schedule, which is on [Darius' website](#) and on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#). Piano and tutti rehearsal dates and times can be found at [Members Area / Diary dates](#). See end of this update for members area user name and password.

Links to YouTube recordings of Messiah, plus to rehearsal tracks for the four voice parts, together with various carols we will sing during the festive season, are on the Chorus website at: [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

Bring a Man Night! (attachment)

Don't forget it's Bring A Man Night on Tuesday 12th November! Men are invited to the music reading workshop from 6.30pm and the main rehearsal at 7.00pm. Bring those men along to sing wonderful music in a great choir with free tuition thrown in if desired. It is not a lifetime commitment but a chance to try us out. Names please to Sally if you know they are coming - or ask them to just turn up on the night. Last time we tried this we gained 15 new men, 8 of whom are still with us – so we know it works. Flyer attached.

AGM on Tuesday 19 November 2019

The AGM is on Tuesday 19 November at 8.30 following a shortened rehearsal. The papers have already been circulated to all members via a special email. They are also in the Members Area of the Chorus website at [Members Area / Official documents and minutes / AGM](#). There were a few typos in the Annual Report; nothing critical (eg last year's date in some footers and on Sally's New Members Officer report) but the website has been updated with the revised version. Thanks to those who spotted typos, and apologies for making them.

The AGM will only take 30 minutes and will be followed by our usual wine and cheese social event. This is a great chance for Chorus members to have a proper chat and most people really enjoy it. Please see bass Richard Salt on Tuesday night if you haven't yet made your donation – £3 is the suggested amount.

Reminder - accommodation for visitors from Bochum and from France

Thank you so much to everyone who has kindly offered to accommodate our visitors from France and Germany in April 2020, we really appreciate this. We are expecting over 40 visitors from Bochum, and about the same number from France, which is fantastic. We know that 15 of

the German visitors would like to stay with Chorus members, and we're likely to need about the same for the French visitors.

So if you haven't already, please can you have a think about whether you could offer to put up a visitor from either France or Germany (or both?!). You don't need a fancy hotel-type room with separate bathroom or anything – just a room with a comfortable bed, access to a bathroom, and a willingness to look after the visitors (provide meals, ferry them to rehearsals etc). While it helps if you can speak either French or German, it isn't a deal breaker as most of the visitors can speak English.

Please let Chair Paul Henstridge know if you feel able to offer our visitors a room in your home, at PaulHenstridge@sheffieldphil.org

Some Chorus members have already been contacted by French and/or German friends with whom they stayed on our choir trips abroad, and arrangements between those friends are in hand. If you haven't heard from the people with whom you stayed, and would like them to stay with you, please feel free to go ahead and make contact.

However, please let Paul know if you've made these arrangements, or plan to make them, so we can keep track of who is staying where – we are obviously keen to be as organised as were our French and German friends during our visits to them!

Margaret Staniforth

Last week we heard that Margaret Staniforth had very sadly died after a short illness. Before she died Margaret asked for singers at her funeral, for which a date has yet to be set but which is likely to be in the last week in November or the first week in December. We will ask for volunteers as soon as we have a date; we will probably sing a couple of Bruckner motets.

Come Sing Messiah

A fair number of Chorus members enjoy attending Sheffield Bach Choir's annual Come Sing Messiah; this year it's at St James' Church, Norton S8 8JQ rather than at Dore Parish Church. It's on Monday 9 December at 7.30pm and there will be mulled wine and mince pies as always. Local soloists, including Peter Taylor from the university Sing Soc and Robin Morton, who sang a short piece with us at the Classical Sheffield concert in March. All invited, bring your own score.

Revised venue for Messiah – and other diary dates

AGM and cheese and wine social event: Tuesday 19 November 8.30

Elective event - Wednesday 27 November 2019, 7.30pm: 20 minute carol concert for Friends of Sheffield Museums at the Millennium Galleries, conducted by Georgina Hulse

Elective event – Sunday 8 December 4pm: Carol Service in Bochum, Germany, as part of short trip to Bochum (back in time for our Christmas concerts on Saturday 14 December)

Elective event - Sunday 8 December 2pm: St Luke's Carol, Service, Sheffield Cathedral, conducted by Rachel Copley

Elective event – Tuesday 17 December: teatime carol slot at Sheffield Station (to be confirmed)

Elective event – Thursday 19 December 2019: Tickhill Carol Concert, 7.30pm

Saturday 18 April 2020 7pm – Messiah concert with Black Dyke Band will now be held in Sheffield cathedral rather than the Victoria Hall.

Friday 1 May 2020 – compulsory piano rehearsal for Verdi *Requiem* with conductor Gianluca Marcianó at KES, tutti rehearsal City Hall Saturday 2 May 2020 from 2pm to 5pm (concert at 7pm)

TWO choir rehearsals for Mahler 8 in Manchester: 10.30 - 4pm on Saturday 6 June 2020 (counts for the MAR) and 2 - 6pm on Saturday 13 June 2020 (doesn't count for the MAR).

Tutti rehearsal for Mahler 8 from 1.30 to 4.30 on Saturday 20 June 2020 at Bridgewater Hall (concert at 7.30pm, no interval)

Concert dates and details, including piano and tutti rehearsal dates, times and locations, are posted on the Chorus website as soon as they become available so that members can plan their activities, at [Members Area / Diary dates](#). 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.

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.

Singing opportunities

Details for a range of 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