

Note: Blades play Newcastle at home on Tues night so you might need to set off early!

Read on for: Rehearsal details; Tracks / recordings and rehearsal notes; **Next concert Sat 14 Dec - request for volunteers; Arrangements for Margaret Staniforth funeral; St Luke's carol service; Station Carols; Tickhill concert; Voice Coach Maggie in Messiah tomorrow night; Millennium Galleries - thanks; Bochum 2019 – Graham Dawson away this week; Reminder - updated attendance procedure, singing list etc; Reminder – Voice Reps vs Member Reps; Diary dates, Password, Contact emails**

Weekly update Sunday 1 December 2019 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 3 December in the Upper School. We will be rehearsing Christmas music for the whole of the rehearsal. **Please note that Sheffield United are playing Newcastle at home that night, so you might need to set off a bit earlier to make up for hold-ups due to heavy traffic.**

Georgina will run another workshop on Tuesday – all welcome; they are going very well indeed, many thanks Georgina. Thank you everyone for continuing to be friendly and welcoming to our many visitors as they decide whether to stay.

Rehearsal tracks and notes (attachments)

Please find attached the rehearsal notes which Chair Paul has compiled from Darius' instructions. The revised 2019-20 rehearsal schedule 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 below for members area user name and password.

Links to YouTube recordings and voice part rehearsal tracks for a number of the carols we will sing during the festive season, and to Paul's rehearsal notes, are on the Chorus website at: [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

Next concert – Saturday 14 December 2019 – various volunteers needed please!

The list of carols and running order for the Christmas concerts on Saturday 14 December is on the website at [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#), along with the arrangements so far, which will be listed in next week's update. Please note the early start time for the rehearsal, i.e. from 11.30am to 1pm, because of the early scheduling of the concerts (2pm and 5.30pm).

SPC provides sherry and mince pies for Chorus and band during the second show interval, and Richard Salt will be collecting donations to cover the costs on Tuesday night – please see Richard if you haven't already donated. Richard is also selling raffle tickets which will be drawn at the same interval – proceeds to Chorus funds and the prize is one of soprano Janet Bower's amazing Christmas cakes, many thanks Janet.

Our Social Events Officer Helen Kirk is organising the sherry and mince pies as well as a Friends event between the two concerts, and would be grateful for some help setting up and clearing away afterwards. Please see Helen or Administrator Anne Adams if you can help.

Soprano Ann Garbett decorates the stage for the Christmas concert with a small team of helpers. Any extra volunteers to twirl the tinsel on to the front rail and to install the front banners from 9.30 am would be most welcome. She would, however, be grateful for offers of help at the end of the concert - perhaps from those who are among the last to leave the stage and could hang back for a few minutes. The tinsel and banners from the front rail need dismantling in a reasonable orderly fashion and put back into boxes. Just five minutes each from a few helpers

would be marvellous! Many hands make light work! Volunteers please see Ann Garbett or Administrator Anne Adams. Thank you.

We are hoping to be able to sell our Awake Arise CDs before and after the 2pm concert and at both intervals, but we need someone who isn't singing to staff the sales desk, which will be in the foyer. Please can you ask for volunteers among family and friends? We need two people for each concert; they need to be able to handle our card reader for debit/credit card payments. Each will receive a free ticket for either the 2pm or the 5.30pm concert. Please let Anne Adams have possible names as soon as you can - administrator@sheffieldphil.org

The London Philharmonic Choir's recording of Paul Finckham's Ring the Bells in aid of the Crisis plan to end homelessness was released this morning. It's available to stream on [Spotify](#) and download from [Apple Music](#). A short video about this project has also been shared on [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). We let the choir know that we are singing this carol and are now [listed on their website](#) – along with all the other choirs which are singing it in aid of Crisis.

Arrangements for Margaret Staniforth funeral Friday 6 December 2pm (attachment)

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to sing, and to Rachel Copley who will conduct. The funeral will be held on Friday 6th December at 2pm at St John's Church, Walton Back Lane, Chesterfield S42, rehearsal 1pm. We will also have a short rehearsal from 9pm to 9.25pm on Tuesday night, so please bring your music (Bruckner motets and your own copy of Faure's Requiem for *In Paradisum*). If you haven't collected it yet, Administrator Anne Adams will have spare copies. Arrangements including order of service attached.

St Luke's Carol Service Sunday 8 December 2019 – more tenors please (attachment)

Thank you to the 18 sopranos, 12 altos, 3 tenors and 11 basses who have signed up to sing at the St Luke's Carol Service next Sunday at 2pm (rehearsal at 1pm). **We could do with more tenors if possible please.** Thanks to Rachel Copley for organising and conducting. Please collect music from Rachel on Tuesday evening. Details including order of service attached (includes Tickhill arrangements).

Carols for Heart Research at Sheffield Station Tue 17 December (attachment)

Thank you to the 15 sopranos, 9 altos, 5 tenors and 11 basses who have signed up for this jolly event, which will start at 4.15pm and run through to 6pm with a short break between what is effectively two repeat sessions. It's okay to drop in and out. Paul Henstridge will lead. You need Carols for Choirs and the Sheffield Carols leaflets, so please keep the two we're using on 14 December at the City Hall. Wrap up in suitably festive but warm gear – it's dry but usually very cold on the station forecourt. Carols list attached.

Tickhill Carol Concert Thursday 19 December 2019 (attachment)

Thank you to the 9 sopranos, 4 altos, 3 tenors, 6 basses who have volunteered for the concert in Tickhill Parish Church. It will be on Thursday 19 December at 7.30pm (rehearsal 6.30pm). **We could do with more from all voice parts but especially altos and tenors,** so do check your diaries and see if you can make it. Details including order of service attached (includes St Luke's arrangements).

Voice Coach Maggie in Sheffield Messiah tomorrow night

Our Voice Coach Maggie McDonald is the alto soloist in Sheffield Bach Choir's *Messiah* in the cathedral at 7pm tomorrow night. If you have a ticket and haven't heard her sing *Messiah*, you are in for a treat! The soprano soloist is Peyee Chen, who you may remember sang the soprano solo very beautifully in Franz Schubert's *Mirjam's Siegesgesang* in March 2017. As an added

attraction, a number of SPC members are singing in this concert. There aren't many tickets left so either [buy them online](#) or go early for the remaining door tickets.

Millennium Galleries concert – thank you

Thank you to everyone who came to sing at the Friends of Museums Sheffield event in the Millennium Galleries last Wednesday evening. It sounded great. Thanks especially to Georgina for conducting. We've had an appreciative email from the organisers.

Bochum 2019 – 'bon voyage' 'Gute Reise'

Some of our colleagues will shortly set off for Bochum and won't be at rehearsal on Tuesday, including our Finance officer Graham Dawson. This means that members can't pay subscriptions until next week, when Graham will be back. The Bochum folk carry a written message from the Lord Mayor on behalf of the city of Sheffield. They'll all be back in time for the Christmas concerts.

Reminder - Concert apologies and Voice Reps

Singing list status: If you are not sure whether you have attended enough rehearsals please contact your Voice Rep (addresses below).

Special permission to sing: If you have not attended enough rehearsals to be included on the singing list, you are free to contact the Membership Officer MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org to seek permission to sing.

Concert apologies: If you know you will not be available for a concert or will miss too many rehearsals to be able to sing a concert, please inform your Voice Rep as soon as you are able.

Voice Representatives: Voice Reps are also the people to consult for anything else: questions, suggestions, comments, feedback and complaints. Please use:

Sop 1: katrina.hulse@googlemail.com

Sop 2: triciahall98@gmail.com

Alto 1: rachelrow@yahoo.co.uk

Alto 2: kate.reece09@gmail.com

Tenor 1& 2: jim.monach@gmail.com

Bass 1: richardsalt@talktalk.net

Bass 2: allanlacey1215@gmail.com

All the above information is available on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#).

Reminder – difference between Voice Reps and Member reps on the Committee

Once elected at the AGM, Member reps on the committee serve as Trustees of SPC for three years, attending committee meetings in order to represent member views. They help organise and run concerts and events along with other Trustees.

Sectional Voice Reps are not Trustees, so aren't elected at the AGM and don't attend committee meetings. They liaise between the section and Darius about musical matters, keep tabs on attendance and the singing lists etc, as detailed in the item about attendance.

Diary dates

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

Saturday 14 December 2pm and 5.30pm: Carol concerts at City Hall; rehearsal 11.30am NOTE EARLIER TIMES!!!

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 in Sheffield cathedral.

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 *darius5*. 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