

Weekly update for w/c Monday 15 January 2018

Rehearsal reminders

Tomorrow Tuesday 15th January we will be rehearsing the Mozart and the Meador, and the same next week; however, the details may change so keep your eye on the rehearsal schedule, via Darius' website at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>; this link is a permanent feature on the [Rehearsal](#) page of our own website.

Please note that those who are singing at the St Luke's service are asked to stay until 9.15 tomorrow night, to rehearse the Goodall piece with Rachel Copley. Please can these folk assemble downstairs near the piano - and please will everyone else leave as quickly and quietly as possible.

Semi Chorus for both Meador and Mozart

Darius has advised the following will comprise the semi-choruses for the Mozart and the Meador (Sopranos only for the Meador; for the Mozart more Altos may be added later)

- Lydia Parker 137
- Libby Blassberg 134
- Georgina Hulse 135
- Magdalene Lake 123
- Rebecca Lambert 129
- Gilaine Young 153
- Jennifer Swann 122
- Annabel Crum 136
- Diane Dalby 124

- Catherine Pumphrey 346
- Pam Leon 327
- Rachel Rowlands 315

2nd Bass Voice Rep

David Mortimer has advised that he wishes to stand down as the 2nd Bass Voice Rep. David has performed this duty diligently since the modern system of Voice Reps was introduced despite, in more recent years, significant personal difficulties. The Committee and Chorus wish to extend our sincere gratitude to David for the work he has done on behalf of his section and the Chorus as a whole. We do hope that he is able to continue to enjoy his singing, free of responsibilities, for many years to come.

Since last September David has shared the workload with Allan Lacey and we are also grateful to Allan for agreeing to take over the responsibilities with immediate effect.

Arrangements (so far) for the Meador concert on 27 January 2018

The tutti rehearsal for Meador concert in Manchester on Sat 27 January will be from 5 to 7pm. The chorus is needed at 5pm but not for the entire rehearsal, so there will be time to get a meal before the concert. The RNCM cafe and/or restaurant will be open and there are plenty of eating places close by - or you could take a packed meal of course.

Transport Officer Paul Duffield has now arranged the coaches; the start times are a bit early but the coach company has advised them due to the possible weather conditions and congestion in Manchester. They are:-

- Glossop Road 2.15 p.m.
- The Sportsman 2.30 p.m.
- Ladybower Inn 2.40 p.m.
- Tankersley 2.40 p.m.

Paul will be in the foyer before the rehearsal tomorrow evening, please let him know whether you will be wanting to travel to Manchester by coach and if so, your preferred pick-up point. Please can you also let Paul know if you intend to travel by car. Thank you very much.

The chorus will be on stage for the whole of the first half of the concert; please be mindful of the fact that, though part of the audience until the Meador, we will be very much on show. Please listen on the day for instructions about dressing rooms, how to get on stage, when to stand etc. We will be able to travel back to Sheffield at the interval, so it won't be quite such a late night as first envisaged - though we have no details as to timings at the moment.

Those travelling by car can get car parking details at <https://www.rncm.ac.uk/visit-us/getting-here/>. There are various car parks, eg the Booth Street West Car Park D (M15 6AR) is just opposite the RNCM entrance and costs only £2 at the weekend; height 2.05m.

Please note that the concert organisers have asked ladies NOT to wear scarves for this concert. Please ensure that in all other respects you meet the dress code, to be found in the Members Area of the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/one-of-us/concert-arrangements/concert-stage-procedure/>. We don't yet have details about dressing rooms. Music in black folders please.

Tenors needed for the St Luke's Service on Sunday 21 January 2018

Thank you to everyone who signed up to sing at the St Luke's service at the Anglican cathedral on Sunday January 21st at 2pm (rehearsal 1pm). We have 15 sopranos, 10 altos, 3 tenors and 9 basses - so we could do with a few more tenors please! Please be at the cathedral in time for the rehearsal at 1pm, in full concert dress with the sheet music, 100 Carols for Choirs and Messiah in chorus black folders. Please collect the sheet music from Rachel Copley tomorrow night if you haven't collected copies already.

- Once in Royal David's City, p260, v1 Sheffield Phil soloists from choir stalls, so no procession.
- All. Good King Wenceslas, p102
- Choir. Love Divine, arr Howard Goodall (sheet)
- Choir. For Unto Us a Child is Born, Messiah, Handel
- Choir. A Gaelic Blessing, Rutter (sheet)
- All. See Amid the Winter's Snow, p283

There may well be other congregational hymns. The Goodall version of Love Divine is not well known and it will be sung during the lighting of candles, a commemorative part of the service that is very important to the people attending, so please can volunteers who don't know it have a listen via the following You Tube clip, so that we can deliver an accomplished performance on the day. In addition, Rachel Copley will rehearse it from 9.00 to 9.15 tomorrow evening round the piano. Many thanks. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aCRSfASKTE>

French Tour

The tour is planned from Thursday 12 to Tuesday 17 July 2018, and bass Matthew Morgan has recently sent out the first email to those who have signed up. **Please let Matthew know THIS WEEKEND if you want to be included in the group travel through RyanAir**; note that once arranged you will be committed to paying, even if you later drop out. A page dedicated to the French Tour has been added to the Members Area of the chorus website.

If there is anyone who signed up who is now unable to go on the tour, or anyone who didn't sign up who would like to be included, please email matthew@goconnect.org.uk asap.

Tickhill concert update

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the concert at Tickhill, which was a great success. The chorus underwrote the concert this year, ie the committee agreed that the chorus would bear any deficit should this be necessary. However, ticket and raffle sales, and some on-the-night donations, generated £966.01, exceeding the costs (£477.69) to the extent that a magnificent £488.32 was raised for Alzheimer's Research UK. Thanks again to all who sang and to everyone involved in the organisation, especially Janet Bower and her Tickhill friends, Rachel Copley, Daniel Gordon, Sue

Morton, Anne Adams and Graham Dawson. Please note that the financial details will be incorporated into the chorus accounts.

Membership Cards and Subscriptions

Two thirds of chorus members have paid their subscription fee and returned the form; thank you. Please can the remaining members pay their subs and complete the form (available from Graham), which is used for gift aid purposes, using the name and address that you are known by to HMRC. HMRC oblige us to advise you that if you pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all your donations in that tax year, it is your responsibility to pay any difference.

Members can pay by cash, cheque, bank transfer or monthly standing order; full details are on the form, of which Graham has hard copies. If any member has difficulty paying their subscription, please talk to 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.

Diary Dates are on the website at: [Members Area / Diary Dates](#)

Singing opportunities

Invitations to sing with other groups or for singing tours, holidays and Come Sing events, will be listed on the Chorus web site from now on, at [Members Area / For Information](#).

New website

The new website is up and running, at <http://sheffieldphil.org>. If this link takes you to an error page then it is likely that your computer or laptop has stored the old website in its memory (cache) and you will need to clear it by pressing REFRESH or the symbol, or F5 on your PC keyboard. If this doesn't work 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 then please contact Anne Adams in the first instance, and she will inform the webmasters Matthew Morgan and Bill Best, to whom we offer grateful thanks for setting up and hosting the new site and for seeing to the background technicalities.

You will need the chorus user name and password to get into the Members Area; the user name is member and the password is dariu5; these are for the exclusive use of chorus members so please don't share them. A lot of the information that was repeated on the weekly update is now held on the website, so the update will restrict itself to providing new information and links.

Classical music in Sheffield - check out what's on at <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/events>

Anne Adams can be contacted at administrator@sheffieldphil.org