Weekly update for w/c Monday 08 January 2018

Rehearsal reminders

Tomorrow Tuesday 9th January we will be rehearsing the Rossini and the Mealor, so if you were absent last week please arrive in plenty of time to collect the new music - and don't forget to return your Christmas music, in its plastic folder and with the markings rubbed out.

Next week we will continue rehearsing the Mealor and will return to the Mozart; 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.

Coaches to Manchester on 27 January 2018

Transport Officer Paul Duffield has now arranged the coaches for the trip to Manchester on the 27th January. The 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 on 16 January, 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.

Please sign up to sing at the St Luke's Service on Sunday 21 January 2018

The St Luke's carol service will now be held at the Anglican cathedral on Sunday January 21st at 2pm (rehearsal 1pm) but in a slightly different format, as listed below. Please can volunteers sign up at rehearsal tomorrow; please bear in mind that we are often short of tenors so don't be shy chaps! Volunteers will need to be at the cathedral in time for the rehearsal at 1pm, in full concert dress with the sheet music and their copies of 100 Carols for Choirs and Messiah in chorus black folders. Please collect the Rutter and Goodall sheet music from Rachel Copley or Els Pearse either tomorrow night or next Tuesday 16 January.

- 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. Many thanks. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aCRSfASKTE

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 items include an invitation to sing with Bakewell Choral Society in a Mozart concert in Bakewell on 24th March, Monday rehearsals.

French Tour

The tour is planned from Thursday 12 to Tuesday 17 July 2018, and bass Matthew Morgan is starting to make the arrangements on behalf of the chorus members who signed up. Please watch out for the first of a number of emails from Matthew early in the new year, and respond to his questions and requests as quickly as you can. In addition, a page dedicated to the French Tour will shortly be 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 let Matthew know as soon as possible at matthew@goconnect.org.uk, as arrangements will very soon get to the stage where firm bookings must be made.

Membership Cards and Subscriptions

Thank you to everyone who has paid their subscription fee and returned the form, which all members are asked to complete even if you have a continuing standing order or have already paid. Hard copies are available from Graham.

Please complete the form accurately as it is used for gift aid purposes, bringing in 25p for every £1 paid in subscription. Please use 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). 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.

Diary Dates are on the website at: Members Area / Diary Dates

NB. Tutti rehearsal for Mealor concert in Manchester on Sat 27 January will be from 5 to 7pm.

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 computer or 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