

Urgent: Rehearsal is at KES Lower School this week! Please return CS music! See below.

Weekly update for Monday 11 March 2019

Apologies for the late posting of the weekly update; Anne has been very busy with the Classical Sheffield festival.

Rehearsal reminders

On Tuesday 12 March 2019 the rehearsal will be at KES Lower School. Apologies for the short notice, but the school has only just informed us of this. The rehearsal will be in the Sports Hall in the Lower School, Darwin Lane, Sheffield, S10 5RG; there's a Google map [on the school's website](#). We will rehearse the B minor Mass until 9.15pm. Please leave promptly as we have to have cleared the building by 9.30pm.

The outer door is locked at 19:00 prompt for security reasons, so please walk round the building to the right of the entrance and turn left around the high brick wall into to the back entrance, which takes you directly into the Sports Hall. Please leave via the same route at the end.

The Lower School is well used for sports activities which unfortunately makes parking difficult; you may need to park some distance away, so do allow extra time. For those travelling by bus the 51 service runs along Sandygate Road and it is a 15 minute walk from Crosspool Post Office along Watt Lane and down Darwin Lane to the school gate. The 120 service runs along Fulwood Road and it is a 13 minute uphill walk from Fulwood Road along Tipton Park Road and Darwin Lane to the school gate. For further information see the [Travel South Yorkshire website](#). These details are permanently provided on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#). Log-in details are at the end of every weekly update.

Please don't forget your membership card for swiping in. No need to send apologies under the new system, but if you do have anything to report please contact your Voice Rep.

[Please click here to go directly to the rehearsal schedule](#), there's also a link on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#). Darius encourages everyone to attend all rehearsals, but asks anyone who isn't able to sing in a concert to let him know via their Voice Rep (for contact details see the Chorus website at [Member's Area / Chorus Contacts](#); there's a password reminder at the end of each weekly update). Remember however that those not singing in any particular concert shouldn't attend the final rehearsal before the concert, so that Darius can hear how it will sound on the day.

Please return your Classical Sheffield music!

Please bring your Classical Sheffield music to return to EIs; we may incur heavy fines for late return of the Schoenberg in particular so please send your music via a friend if you are going to absent. Alternatively please contact EIs at librarian@sheffieldphil.org to arrange drop-off at her home in S10.

Practising at home

Links to Paul Henstridge's rehearsal notes, You Tube recordings of the Mass in B minor, and rehearsal recordings including the Choralia website are provided on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Preparing the music](#). Log-in details are at the end of every weekly update. However, here is a direct link to the Choralia files for those who struggle with the website: [B minor Mass mp3 files in Choralia](#)

Classical Sheffield concert

Thank you everyone who came to sing at our ballroom concert, for cheerful patience in what was a packed and hectic afternoon and evening towards the end of an extremely lively and well

attended festival. Thanks to James for sorting out the entrance and positioning, and Paul for sorting the register. Huge thanks to Darius for supportive leadership and to Rachel for amazing accompaniment. Not forgetting page turner Nigel – lovely to see you Nigel!

From Caroline Taylor: *'had a fantastic time with the Chorus and really hope to work with you all again soon. Congratulations on a fantastic concert - and toi toi toi for the B minor mass! Caroline'*

Robin Morton thought the concert was super and thanked us for giving him the opportunity to sing the Boulanger which he really enjoyed; *'What a beautiful, beautiful piece!'*

Gill Martin's funeral

Gill Martin, a longstanding member of the choir from the 60s until relatively recently, sadly died last Wednesday 27th February. Should anyone from the choir wish to attend her funeral they would be very welcome, it is taking place at Hutcliffe Wood Crematorium at 11.15am on Tuesday 12th March. Family flowers only, donations in lieu to Sheffield Music Academy

Weekly updates

Some members are still not receiving the weekly update; please ask colleagues who report this to tell bass Matthew Morgan, who is working through the issues as best he can.

However, if ever you don't receive the weekly update, please go to the Members Area of the Chorus website; Anne spends time every week keeping this up to date, with rehearsal details in [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) and concert arrangements in [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#). The Classical Sheffield concert arrangements were there a couple of weeks before the concert for example, and the arrangements we know so far for the Bach concert are already there (they have been included further down this update for quite some weeks). The weekly updates themselves are uploaded onto the website every week in [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#), and the dates for the following season are there as well in [Members Area / Diary Dates](#). Log-in details are at the end of every weekly update (see below), but urgent messages are always listed above the log-in box so members can read the important part without logging in.

Help to promote your Chorus (see attachment)

We are considering ordering mugs as shown in the attachment – a plain white 'chunky' mug, with our new logo, and a 'singing' quotation. Price will be around £9 each. Interested? If so please sign up for your mug on Tues 12th or 19th March, or email Rachel.Mallaband@sheffieldphil.org with your name, chorus number, quantity and quotation required (see attachment for quotation choices).

Reminder - message from Philip Collin – hear more Bach!

Philip, who takes our rehearsals now and again when Darius is otherwise engaged, has organised a performance of the St Matthew Passion on 16th March at St John's Church, Park, Sheffield S2 5PU. He has brought together singers and musicians from around the country especially for this event. This performance has been many months in preparation, with members of the choir - who will also be the soloists, as would have been the case in Bach's time - researching and sharing ideas about interpretation and style in correspondence before bringing it all together in rehearsals in London in Sheffield. The venue is a beautiful 19th Century church with a concrete extension built in sympathy with the nearby Park Hill flats, very close to the City Centre and a very short walk from Hyde Park tram station. The performance will start at 6.30pm, with an interval during which refreshments will be served. Price is £10 on the door (£5 for under-18s and unwaged).

It is very unusual to have all Bach's Big Three in performance in the same city over just four weeks – the Bach choir's St John Passion at the cathedral on Saturday 6 March, the above St Matthew Passion on 16 March at 6.30pm, then our B minor Mass in the City Hall on 6 April – a veritable Bach-Fest!

Reminder - Subscriptions and membership cards

If you haven't paid yet please can you do so before the end of February? Unfortunately anyone who hasn't paid by then will not be able to sing in our concerts.

Reminder - bring your own mug or cup if you can

The average lifespan of a single-use cup is 13 minutes, and due to the plastic content less than 1% get recycled. A number of people already bring their own cup; do bring yours if you can. Email Rachel Rowlands if you'd like a special bamboo cup with lid, 12 oz £7.99, 14 oz £8.99. rachelrow@yahoo.co.uk. Many thanks

Reminder - May Midgley book

Get your copy of this fascinating book featuring the letters of May Midgley as she sailed round the world with the likes of Edward Elgar and a choir from Yorkshire. A great read and well worth the £6.50 price ticket, with £1.50 per copy for choir funds. See Penny Webster at rehearsal.

Advance notice - Saturday 6 April 2019 - Bach's Mass in B minor (615 tickets sold)

The concert is in the City Hall from 19.00 to 21.00. It's one of our Sheffield International Concert Season concerts, with the Royal Northern Sinfonia conducted by Andrew Griffiths.

The compulsory 'on-the-day' rehearsal will be from 14.30 to 17.30 in the City Hall; please make sure you are in your seats ready to start at 14.30 on the dot.

Conductor Andrew Griffith is very keen to rehearse this with us thoroughly, so he is coming up by train and staying the night for both piano rehearsals. The first is on Tuesday 26 March 2019, the second on Tuesday 2 April 2019, both at KES. Anyone who has to miss one of these will need good overall attendance and permission to sing in the concert. If you miss both piano rehearsals you won't be able to sing.

Tickets are [available via the City Hall website](#) or from the Box Office.

Schools have been offered a reduction via an email voucher. Ticket sales so far = 615, usual on-the-day sales around 300, target 1300, capacity 2000.

Advance notice - Sun 9 Jun 2019 – The Holy Face – a self funded concert we need to promote ourselves!

Venue is the City Hall at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. With the Black Dyke Band, Halifax Choral Society, the Yorkshire Youth Choir and four soloists, we will sing Wilby's *The Holy Face* and Paul Mealor's *Paradise*, and Darius will play Wilby's organ concerto *Cinema*.

The on-the-day rehearsal will be from 11.00 to 14.00 in the City Hall; please be in your seats ready to start rehearsal at 11.00 on the dot.

Tickets [available via SIV website](#) or at the City Hall Box Office. £5 reduction for anyone who presents their Xmas concert or Bach ticket or proof of booking and under 18 tickets FREE! Schools will be offered a significant reduction via an email voucher.

Rehearsal attendance new procedure – see chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#)

Upcoming classical concerts are on the Chorus website, [Members Area / For information](#)

Upcoming Singing Opportunities at [Members' Area / For information / Singing Opportunities](#)

Diary Dates See the Chorus website at [Members Area / Diary dates](#).

Chorus website

Information about concert arrangements, future dates, our official stage procedure, Darius' rehearsal schedule, re-auditions, where to get rehearsal tracks etc. can be found on the chorus website, in the Member's Area in particular. 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. The chorus user name is member and the password is dariu5; these are for chorus members only so please don't share them.

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org