

**Weekly update Friday 30 August 2019 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))**

### **Next rehearsal**

Welcome back one and all, hope you all had a wonderful summer. Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 3 September 2019, when Els will need your Holy Face and Paradise scores - with markings rubbed out please!

We start the new season with Rutter's *Gloria* which we are recording with the Black Dyke Band on Monday 21 October 2019 in St Oswald's Church, Bannerdale Road, Sheffield. We will also start rehearsing for the 'After Hours' concert on Saturday 9 November 2019 in the City Hall ballroom, programme to include Scandinavian and Baltic music.

Els and her team will be giving out music so please come in plenty of time to hand in your Holy Face and Paradise scores, and to collect the new music. You'll also need a bit of money to cover the hire charges or the cost of copying – it's £2 for each of the two sets of music.

### **Rehearsal schedule, notes and practice tracks**

The new season's 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](#) (also see New diary dates below). See end of this update for members area user name and password.

Links to rehearsal tracks and YouTube recordings of Rutter's *Gloria* were placed on the Chorus website in June, at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

### **Volunteers needed to sing on BBC Music Day**

We have accepted an invitation to sing for 20 minutes on Fargate as part of the BBC Music Day event, at 11am on Thursday 26 Sept 2019. Other classical music performers on the day will include Opera on Location, Hallam Synfonia and Vivacity. [See the BBC Music Day website for further details of what's on in Sheffield.](#) Our choir was recommended as a 'top choir in the city' and we'll receive £200 for Chorus funds. Programme yet to be arranged, but will include short SATB works for which we have the music. Administrator Anne will have a sign-up sheet at rehearsal on Tuesday, so please volunteer if you're free.

### **Thank you from the Smyllie family**

Thanks to those Chorus members who sang at Wendy Smyllie's funeral. We have received the following messages from her family; see also the card on the SPC Notice Board.

*'Bill, Martin, myself and the rest of the family would like to thank you all for the contributions that you made to Friday's Thanksgiving Service for Wendy. We all much appreciated your efforts and the others who supported you, to make the day such a special event. Everybody I spoke to said what a lovely service it was, which collectively allowed us all to celebrate Wendy's life of dedication and achievement. It allowed us to give her a memorable and fitting farewell. Thank you all very much. The Smyllie Family'*

*'Thank you for pulling together a contingent from Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus for Wendy's thanksgiving service. The additional support for the church choir gave extra depth and produced a lovely sound. Everyone I spoke to said what a beautiful service it was and the singing of the choir played a large part in making the occasion special. We would be grateful if you could pass on our thanks to all those from the Phil who came to support Wendy and us. As you know the Sheffield Phil was very important to Wendy and she would have appreciated their contribution very much. Yours sincerely, Richard and Pauline Smyllie.'*

**Bochum trip – we could do with a few more especially men!**

We are still hoping to get a party together to return to Bochum to take part in their family Christmas concert. Seventeen have signed up so far – we could do with a few more, especially men! We will probably perform some of the music from our own Christmas concert on Saturday 14 December, for which we'd aim to be back in time to attend.

If you would like to go, the concert is on 8th December in their new glorious concert hall where some of us sang the Messiah with them last year. One incentive that they're keen to point out is their famous Christmas markets!

There are lots of travel options e.g. flights to nearby Dusseldorf or Dortmund, Eurostar to Brussels and onward train to Bochum via Cologne, car ferries - Bochum is 3 hours drive from Rotterdam Europoort etc. Additionally, Bochum choir members are very happy to provide accommodation for those that wish.

If you would like to go on the trip to Bochum, please let Graham Dawson or Chairman Paul Henstridge know as soon as possible. [chairman@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:chairman@sheffieldphil.org)

### **Classical Sheffield Weekend festival Report (attachment)**

Please find attached a 2-page summary of the March Classical Weekend festival, showing that the festival exceeded targets and expectations, in almost all aspects, for which Classical Sheffield extends many thanks. It was such a great collaborative effort among Sheffield's music-makers. Here's a link to the YouTube video of the weekend, which is brilliant! Make sure you have the sound turned up, and please share with colleagues and friends.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vlaq8i0BJ\\_A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vlaq8i0BJ_A).

### **Call for volunteers to join the committee**

A number of committee members (Trustees) are standing down at the AGM on Tuesday 19 November, so the Chorus is looking for volunteers to take their place. The vacancies, and who to talk to for further details, are as follows:

Publicity and Marketing Officer (press releases, liaison with City Hall re programme entries and other publicity, devising text to send to our Graphic Designer) See Paul Bedwell.

Making Music Representative (alerting committee members to useful Making Music information, circulating the Making Music email newsletters). See Richard Salt.

Members Reps (liaison with members about items to be discussed at committee meetings. Please note that these are member reps on the committee, NOT Voice Reps). We have three vacancies - see Rachel Mallaband or Janet Hoyle.

### **Sad news**

Voice Coach Maggie has shared the sad news that Richard Scott, the sound engineer with whom the Chorus worked on a number of occasions, passed away in early August. Our thoughts are with Jane and his family. He was a gentle man with a lovely sense of humour, and his expertise as a sound engineer and his knowledge of music were widely highly regarded. He will be sorely missed.

### **New diary dates**

*Elective event – Thursday 26 September 2019: 20 minute slot for BBC Music Day at 11am, Fargate Sheffield*

*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 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)*

Piano rehearsal for Verdi *Requiem* with conductor Gianluca Marcianó on Friday 1 May 2020 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.

### **Holy Face concert programmes**

Administrator Anne Adams has saved a number of copies, she'll have them at the next couple of rehearsals, priced at £1 each – the money goes to cover the cost of producing them.

### **What to do if your contact details change**

Please send a message to [emailchange2019@sheffieldphil.org](mailto: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](mailto:chairman@sheffieldphil.org)

**Administrator Anne Adams** [administrator@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:administrator@sheffieldphil.org)