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Weekly update Sunday 13 October 2019 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 15 October in the Upper School. There are auditions after the rehearsal so please leave as quickly and as quietly as you can.

This is the final rehearsal before the recording on Monday 21 October (details below) so it is compulsory for anyone wishing to take part in the recording; we will rehearse the Rutter *Gloria* all evening.

Rehearsal schedule, notes and practice tracks (attachment)

Chairman Paul Henstridge has updated the rehearsal notes given by Darius, for both the Rutter and the ballroom music (attached). As always, these are also on the Chorus website along with links to YouTube recordings of all the ballroom concert works and the Rutter *Gloria*: [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

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](#). See end of this update for members area user name and password.

Arrangements for the Rutter recording

We will record the Rutter *Gloria* with the Black Dyke Band on Monday 21 October from 7pm to 9pm, in St Peter and St Oswald's Church, 2 Bannerdale Road, Sheffield S7 2DL. The church is on the corner of Abbeydale Road and Bannerdale Road; there is a map on the church website: <http://www.st-peter-and-st-oswalds.co.uk/how-to-find-us.php>. There's also a rather good virtual tour of the church, so if you're the sort of person who likes to know the set up in advance, do check it out: <http://www.st-peter-and-st-oswalds.co.uk/virtual-tour-of-the-church.php>

The church will be open from 4pm so that the recording engineers and then the band can set up, but it will be best for them if we don't start to arrive until about 6.15pm. We only have 2 hours to make the recording so please can everyone be in the church for a prompt start at 7pm. We'll be recording from 7pm to 9pm and the band and engineers will be clearing away until around 10pm.

Please note that Sheffield United are playing at home that evening, so there may be traffic hold-ups; please set off in plenty of time to park up and get in for 7pm. Please swipe in with your membership card in the usual way; we are hoping to be able to set up the bar code reader at the back of the church near the entrance, but be prepared to sign in on paper just in case.

There is a kitchen on the premises but it is very small and will be used by the band and technical staff. It really isn't large enough to enable us to offer refreshments to the choir, so bring your own drinks and snacks if you need them - and please don't be the one to embarrass Helen by trying to persuade her to make an exception for you! The toilet is located next to the kitchen.

The band will store their instrument cases etc in the side chapel, so please keep out of there. Chorus members may leave their belongings either at the back of the church, where there is plenty of space, or in the body of the church where we will be gathering to sing. Details about exactly where we will sing, and whether there will be chairs there or at the sides, won't be decided until the sound engineer has conducted tests and decided where to place us in relation to the band, so please be ready to respond to instructions from our Rehearsals and Events Officer James Oliver on the night.

Please make sure that you turn the pages of your score as quietly as possible during recording, and try not to shuffle around, scrape your chair or make noises other than those indicated in the score. And as always when recording, everyone will need to be absolutely silent immediately before and after singing a section.

Please note that although the church does have a car park, spaces have been reserved for the band vehicles and for people who are gathering that evening for a parish meeting. Chorus members should therefore park their cars on nearby streets rather than in the church car park; members might like to organise car sharing because of the limited space available.

Please enter the church as quietly as you can if you do happen to be late arriving, as recording or at least sound testing is likely to have started and the sound of large hefty church doors creaking or crashing shut isn't going to go down too well!

Message to first altos

Message from first alto Voice Rep Rachel Rowlands: *'Sorry not to be at rehearsals for a few weeks due to other commitments. I'll be back soon and in the meantime am happy to respond to any queries by email rachelrow@yahoo.co.uk. Rachel.'*

Hvad est du dog skjön (two attachments)

Chairman Paul Henstridge has found a copy of Grieg's *Hvad est du dog skjön* with the Norwegian words underneath each voice part. It's from the Choral Public Domain Library (CPDL) so you are allowed to download and print it for your own use. Sopranos and tenors might prefer this to writing the Norwegian text under their staves. In addition, John Spence has sent the attached translation. Many thanks Paul and John!

Last call for Bochum trip

The trip to Bochum to take part in their family Christmas concert is definitely on, though it's now a rather small select group. If you'd like to join them please contact Graham Dawson or Paul Henstridge as soon as possible. Non-singing spouses, partners and friends are welcome – it's likely that concert tickets will be made available for them.

SPC will sing *The First Nowell* and *O Little Town of Bethlehem* as well as two or three German carols with the Bochum choir on Sunday 8th December in their new glorious concert hall. There will be a brief rehearsal on the afternoon of Saturday 7 December, a dress rehearsal at 10am on Sunday 8 December followed by the concert at 4pm. Darius will rehearse those going to Bochum before the trip.

Although this will be a shortish trip, there should be plenty of time to pack in Christmas markets and other sight-seeing tours, either together or not, as people prefer. Graham Dawson is happy to receive suggestions if there is something that you really want to do. If you would like to travel with someone else for company then we can pool suggestions and see if that is possible.

Those going should feel free to book travel and accommodation now – let Graham know if you'd like to stay with a host.

Reminder – please distribute After Hours concert / season programme flyers (attachment)

Thank you to everyone who took flyers last week, and/or distributed the electronic flyer. There are plenty left, so please take some and give them to friends, family and work colleagues. The electronic version is attached; please share as widely as you can, whether by email, Facebook, Twitter or whatever. Tickets are required, but they are FREE and there is no booking fee – available online via the Chorus website, or at http://bit.ly/sch_afterhours2019 or from the City Hall box office. Many thanks.

Messiah scores – those who don't have one MUST order by 29 October!

Message from Els Pearse: 'As many of you will own a copy of *The Messiah* by Handel, I will only hire or buy copies for the members who put in an order **no later than October 29**. The score most often used is the Novello edited by Shaw, Watkins. Priced around £8.50/£9.00 to buy. Hire price will be £2.00. Please sign the list on Tuesday evenings or email to elspearse@yahoo.co.uk Many thanks. Els'

Urgent - please help your Chorus

Thank you to the generous individuals who have indicated that they may give their time and expertise to help the Chorus, which could not function without volunteers to take on the various tasks involved in running a large choir. We still need people for the roles shown below so please think about whether you could spare some time to help. Sharing a role is acceptable if you think you could offer with a friend.

Making Music Representative (alert committee members to useful Making Music information, circulate 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, Janet Hoyle or Ben Stone.

Reminder – Helen collecting for post-AGM cheese and wine social

Helen is organising our usual cheese and wine social event to be held immediately after the AGM on Tuesday 19 November. This is a great chance for Chorus members to have a proper chat and most people really enjoy it. Helen will soon be collecting donations at rehearsals, to pay for the cheese, crackers and nibbles – and of course the wine, so do come prepared over the next few weeks.

Boxed bow tie for sale

John Spence has passed on a very nice crimson silk bow tie – unused and still in its box – to be sold for SPC funds. John suggests that one of the men might want it for the Christmas concert. The first person to pass Graham Dawson £5 on Tuesday gets the bow-tie. Grateful thanks to John for the tie.

Reminder - invitation to members from all voice parts to sing *Christmas Oratorio* and/or *Messiah*

Sheffield Bach Choir invites tenors, basses, sopranos and altos to join them to sing in **either or both** of the two concerts listed below.

Bach's *Christmas Oratorio* parts 1,2,3 and Cantata 140 (Sleepers wake). The concert is on Saturday 16 November at 7.30 pm in Sheffield Cathedral. Rehearsals on the following six Mondays from 7.30 to 9.30pm: 7,14,21 and 28 October, 4 and 11 November, and the afternoon of the concert.

Handel's *Messiah*. The concert is on Monday 2 December at 7pm in Sheffield Cathedral. Rehearsals on the following two Mondays: 18 November 7.00 – 9.00pm and 25 November 7.30 – 9.30pm; no rehearsal on the day of the concert.

Rehearsals are at Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Napier Street entrance, door open from 7pm. Parking in Waitrose car park, but you will need to sign in with your car to avoid a fine – there will be a list in the rehearsal room.

Tenors and basses who are interested in either or both, please contact bass Nigel Wright at wrightnigel@yahoo.com; this is part of the Voice Exchange and other choirs have been approached. Sopranos and altos please contact Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org if you'd like to sing.

Old harmonium seeks good home – plus two electric guitar bodies

Anne Adams has an old portable harmonium that plays well but could do with some TLC; it's not worth much, but might interest someone who tinkers with musical instrument repair. Anne also has two hand-made but unfinished electric guitar bodies in rather beautiful wood. Please contact Anne if you are interested in either (email at bottom of update).

Invitation to sing at world-record attempt for Children in Need – Thu 7 Nov 9.45am

A world-record attempt is being organised for BBC Children in Need - for the most people singing songs in a relay. This is where each word from the songs is sung by a different person. The first person sings the first word, the person next to them the second, and so on, until the song finishes. The songs will be well-loved nursery rhymes. **The attempt will take place from 9.45am to 11am on Thursday 7th November 2019 at the Crucible Theatre.** If you're interested in getting involved, please contact Kasturi Pindar 0114 212 3007 or kasturi.pindar@twinkl.co.uk

Invitation to take part in Sheffield 'Voices for Change'

Ruben Picalli, a 7 year old boy at Hallam Primary School in Sheffield, has been demonstrating at his school gates and in his town centre in support of action for climate change, presenting an assembly to nearly 400 pupils at Hallam Primary. His Mum is organising 'Voices for Change', gathering local people to record a melancholic version of "*It takes a Worried Man to Sing a Worried Song*". Already signed up are Hallam Primary School parents/PTFA, Hallam Primary School junior choir and Sheffield Children's Orchestra. If you are interested please contact Cathy Tuck at tuck.cathy@gmail.com or telephone Cathy on 078 3456 1626.

Reminder - diary dates

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 4pm: Carol Service in Bochum, Germany, as part of short trip to Bochum (back in time for our Christmas concerts on Saturday 14 December)

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)

Elective event – Thursday 19 December 2019: Tickhill Carol Concert, 7.30pm

Piano rehearsal for Verdi *Requiem* with conductor Gianluca Marciánó 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.

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 *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

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org

