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Weekly update Sunday 27 October 2019 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 22 October in the Upper School. We will be rehearsing the ballroom programme all evening. Please note that Sheffield Wednesday are playing Stoke City 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.

Rehearsal schedule, notes and practice tracks (attachment)

Rehearsal notes given by Darius are on the Chorus website along with links to YouTube recordings of all the ballroom concert works: [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#). In the same place are Grieg's *Hvad est du dog skjön* with the Norwegian words underneath each voice part, free to print for personal use, plus a translation.

The 2019-20 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.

Fifty-five missing Rutter *Gloria* scores!

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Rutter *Gloria* recording, your patience and responsiveness were much appreciated. Unfortunately 55 people haven't returned their scores, which is really too bad! Els will not be at rehearsal on Tuesday so Paul Henstridge will collect the remaining scores. Els is taking the scores she has received back to Leeds to try to avoid another month's charges. If you aren't able to attend on Tuesday please get your score to Els at 49 Westbourne Road Sheffield.

Lord Mayor coming to our After Hours concert

PLEASE do everything you can to get folk to attend this concert. It will be attended by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, who will be presented with the framed photo we were given by the Bochum choir, just before we sing.

A press release has been sent to the Telegraph about this, approved by the Mayor's office. We have produced flyers for the City Hall racks; flyers were also handed out after the last two classical concerts at the City Hall. We also placed an ad in the programme of the concert last Friday, and City Hall have advertised the concert to everyone on their classical mailing list.

Despite all this, and the fact that the concert is free, only 30 punters have acquired tickets, which is very disappointing, especially since the concert is only two weeks away. Thank you to everyone who has taken flyers 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.

Arrangements for the After Hours concert on Saturday 9 November 2019

The concert is in the ballroom at the City Hall on Saturday 9 November at 9.15pm, after the Halle concert in the main hall upstairs. The whole programme will be sung unaccompanied, Darius conducting.

The compulsory 'on-the-day' rehearsal will be in the City Hall ballroom from 16.45 to 18.00, allowing plenty of time for those who wish, to attend the Halle concert in the main hall upstairs. Please note that there won't be access to the ballroom, or to the North and South Hall, until 16.15 at the earliest, because there is a tea dance that doesn't finish until 16.00.

Access to the City Hall is via the Stage Door, which is down a set of steps towards the right hand side of the back of the City Hall. Please stick to the prescribed areas so that we don't compromise the City Hall's fire safety arrangements and make life difficult for front of house and technical staff.

Our electronic registration system will be set up, probably in the basement corridor, so please make sure you bring your membership card. There will be a sheet for those new members who don't have a membership card yet.

Dressing rooms are in the North and South halls, adjacent to the City Hall ballroom. Please note that we won't be able to get into any part of the ballroom suite until 16.15 at the earliest, because there is a tea dance that doesn't finish until 16.00. The crew then have to clear away and set up our staging before we can get in. The South Hall is also used for the tea dance, so access to that dressing room may be delayed a little - please use the North Hall if you arrive before 16.40. The South Hall will be ready by the time we have finished our rehearsal.

People who take a packed tea may eat it in the dressing room; please be sure to 'leave no trace'!

Please note that we will NOT have access to any of the upstairs dressing rooms, including Dressing Room 1, because we are not singing in the main hall.

There should be bins, chairs, jugs of water and a mirror in each dressing room. The City Hall people usually put up signs just inside the Stage Door, but please ask if you aren't sure – the Stage Door folk are very helpful.

Chorus members are usually able to get a car parking voucher from the City Hall Box Office, enabling them to pay a reduced rate for a full day in the Q Park on Rockingham Street. Park your car, go to the box office and get the voucher, which you'll need when you pay. Please note that the voucher is only valid at the Rockingham Street car park. Please also note that only those to whom a City Hall parking permit has been allocated may park behind the City Hall.

Please listen for directions about getting on stage, during or after the rehearsal at 16.45 - 18.00. James Oliver is unavailable on 9 November, so Paul Hanstridge will take over his role on the day. Please follow Paul's directions, but basically we will line up in the dressing rooms and file onto the stage. We will be on stage during the presentation to the Lord Mayor.

We will stand throughout (it's only 50 minutes). Even though this is a short concert please maintain a professional presentation at all times, ie correct concert dress, no fidgeting with music, no bottles of water and no waving to the audience.

Please store all music in your black Chorus folders, and wear formal concert dress. Ladies please take care to wear the correct formal concert dress – it would be a tragedy for you not to be able to sing! [Check what you can and can't wear on the website here](#). Please observe the relevant sections of our [stage procedure which you will find here](#).

Please note the importance of NOT wearing perfume or aftershave, for either rehearsals or concerts, as they can cause some members to have allergic reactions, and can interfere with

efficient breathing. Please take your usual sensible approach to reduce the risk of accidents, for example:

- not using breakable vessels in dressing rooms
- storing and carrying hot drinks safely
- taking only cold bottled drinks on stage during rehearsal
- no drinks on stage at all during the performance
- keeping belongings out of thoroughfares
- taking care when using the stairs and steps to the stage

In the event of an emergency, a continuous alarm will be sounded and we will be directed out of the building to either the war memorial on Barker's Pool (fire), or to Devonshire Green (bomb alert).

Last call to order Messiah scores!

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'*

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.

Reminder - invitation to members from all voice parts to sing *Messiah*

Sheffield Bach Choir invites tenors, basses, sopranos and altos to join them to sing 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, 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.

Reminder - 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).

Reminder - 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

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 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.

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

