

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Read on for: Rehearsal details; Tracks / recordings; Return your music; **Important message re Verdi Requiem scores; Membership cards and subs; Thanks; Philip Collin concert 18 Jan 2020; Classical Sheffield website password; Diary dates, Password, Contact emails**

Weekly update Sunday 5 January 2020 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 7 January 2020 in the Upper School. We will be rehearsing *Messiah*, so please make sure you bring your music.

Rehearsal tracks and notes

Links to YouTube recordings and voice part rehearsal tracks for *Messiah*, and to Paul's rehearsal notes, are on the Chorus website at: [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

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 below for members area user name and password.

Returning music

Please bring all your Christmas music back to the rehearsal on Tuesday 7 January, in the plastic wallet and with all the markings rubbed out. Many thanks in advance for your help with this.

Message from Els Pearse re Verdi Requiem scores

*'Happy New Year to you all. We will start rehearsing the Verdi Requiem on January 28. **Could members who do not want to either buy or hire a score please let me know asap** so I can get numbers more or less accurate. The scores for hire are the Ricordi edition. **Anybody who would like to order a copy to buy must do so by January 14.** The scores retail at around £12.55. Many thanks, Els'*

Message from Graham re subs

Thanks to all those who have paid their subs – about half of the members. Membership cards are now ready and can be collected from Graham at rehearsal on Tuesday 7 January 2020. The subs were due in November, so please can all those who haven't yet paid, do so as soon as they can. The subscription form is attached – **please remember that everyone needs to complete a new form each year**. Members should complete the form using their full names as recognised by HMRC, otherwise Gift Aid collection will be problematic. Please note that those members that already have a standing order running still need to complete the form in order to receive a membership card. It's easier for Graham if members pay by internet bank transfer or standing order, but he is happy to take cheques or cash from those who prefer it. If anyone has difficulty paying for any reason, then please contact Graham at GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org.

Thanks

Thanks to everyone who sang at the Christmas elective events, which all went very well. Ann Garbett sends heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped with the Christmas decorations at the City Hall, and here's a message from Helen Kirk, Social Events Officer: *'I really appreciated all the help I had this year in order to set out the sherry & mince pies for the interval and clear*

up at the end of the concert. You all know who you are, thank you so much. I wish to give special thanks to Richard Salt for collecting donations and selling raffle tickets week after week, to Janet Bower for the wonderful iced cakes she has made and donated for many years and to Helen Eyre who yet again donated the mince-pies. My job was made considerably easier because the City Hall catering staff put all the glasses through the dishwasher- a lovely Christmas surprise. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and I wish you a happy and healthy New Year. Helen'

We also received a message from Tessa Bartley, Chairman of the London Philharmonic Choir: 'Dear SPC, I hope you had a wonderful Christmas. Thank you once again for programming Paul Fincham's Ring the Bells this year in support of Crisis UK. We've had an incredible response to this project from the choral community with more than 50 choirs giving in excess of 70 performances around the country <https://lpc.org.uk/hearthebells/>. Wishing you a happy new year and a fantastic 2020. Best wishes, Tess'

Schubert's Winterreise on Saturday 18 January 2020 (attachment)

Philip Collin, who leads our rehearsals when Darius can't, is hosting a concert in Sheffield on Saturday 18 January 2020. Bass-baritone William Burn will sing Winterreise (Winter Journey), a setting of 24 poems by Wilhelm Müller which Schubert's composed as a song cycle for voice and piano in 1828. Philip will accompany William on the piano. It's at 12 noon in the Upper Chapel, Norfolk Street, Sheffield S1 2JD and costs £10 on the door (£5 concessions).

Classical Sheffield website has been updated

The Classical Sheffield website has been updated, and now includes a Member's Area as well as information about how to join or support the organisation. The Member's Area is accessible to individuals from member groups, so anyone from the Chorus can log in and view the documents (eg AGM minutes and policy documents) and resources (eg links useful to classical music makers, Fundraising Guide etc). The website still features all the classical [Music Makers](#) in Sheffield, as well as the most comprehensive list of [What's On](#) in terms of classical music in a handy date-ordered list that's easy to browse, with links to ticketing information. The Member's Area is at <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/about> and the password is **moremusic**.

Diary dates

Saturday 18 April 2020 7pm – Messiah concert with Black Dyke Band in Sheffield cathedral.

Friday 1 May 2020 – compulsory piano rehearsal for Verdi *Requiem* with conductor Gianluca Marcianó 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