

Read on for: Rehearsal details; Rehearsal notes, tracks and recordings; Outstanding subs; Ticket sales; Classical Sheffield festival 2021; Possible dates for next season; Reminders - £5 concert tickets, Invitation to sing Mahler 2, Singing Day with Paul Mealor, Diary dates, Websites and passwords, Contact emails

Weekly update Sunday 2 February 2020 (also available at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 4 February 2020 in the Upper School. We will be rehearsing the Verdi *Requiem*, so if you absent last week please come in plenty of time to collect a pre-ordered or hire score, or bring your own copy if you have one.

King Edwards is holding an Open Evening next Tuesday 11 February, so our rehearsal will be in the Lower School Sports Hall. Information about location, how to get to the Sports Hall etc is on the Chorus website, and will be in the weekly update on Sunday 9 February 2020.

Rehearsal tracks and notes

Chairman Paul's rehearsal notes from Darius for the Verdi *Requiem*, are attached – please amend your scores if you weren't there on Tuesday. The notes, along with links to YouTube recordings and voice part rehearsal tracks for the Verdi, 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](#). Scroll to the end for members area user name and password.

One more week to pay outstanding subs

Subs were due in November 2019 - please can those few who haven't yet paid, do so in the coming week? If anyone has difficulty paying for any reason, please contact Graham Dawson at GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org. Also, please can those who have set up standing orders or bank transfers, check that they have set their payments up correctly? Membership cards can be collected from Graham at rehearsal if you still haven't collected yours.

Ticket sales

Ticket sales so far for the Verdi *Requiem* = 623.

City Hall's standard target for the Sheffield International Concert Season (SICS) choral concerts is 1,300, which is 57% of the total capacity of 2,270. The target is set lower than the break-even number, ie, at a level which results in an acceptable loss to the three partners that between them underwrite the choral concerts (Sheffield International Venues, the Halle Concert Society and SPC). All three partners have made a loss on all the SICS choral concerts for quite some years.

Figures show that choral concerts sell fewer tickets than orchestral concerts. For example, the most popular choral concert in the last five years was the Mozart *Requiem* in 2017, for which ticket sales were 1,259, ie didn't quite reach the target. The two 2019 Christmas concerts sold 1,370 ie 60% (2pm) and 1,084 ie 48% (5.30pm), or 2,454 in total, which is about the same as in previous years.

Choral concerts usually get around 400 people turning up on the night, so the pre-concert sales need to reach about 1,000 to safely reach the target, and more to avoid the concert making a loss for the three partners. The overall message is that all efforts made by members to help sell tickets are efforts well spent!

Launch of 2021 Classical Sheffield Festival on Fri 28 February 2020

Classical Sheffield is holding an event to launch the next weekend festival, which will run from Friday 5 to Sunday 7 March 2021 with a theme of 'Collaboration'. SPC has already agreed to take part in the final concert of the weekend, a performance of Mahler's 2nd Symphony at the City Hall on Sunday 7 March, in collaboration with Hallam Choral Society, Hallam Sinfonia and Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra.

The launch event is on Friday 28 February, 6.00 - 8.00pm at the Montgomery Theatre and is a chance to find out more about the next Classical Weekend and to gather ideas and questions. Also, Theresa Keogh, new director of the Montgomery, will speak about their plans for re-developing the building, making it fully accessible, and the wide variety of spaces they currently have on offer for groups to use at very reasonable rates. There will also be the opportunity to look around the building.

It would be great for SPC to have a representative or two at the launch, to gather information and meet with other Classical Sheffield members. If you are willing to attend on our behalf, please contact Anne Adams by replying to this weekly update.

Possible dates for next season

Details of next season are still being worked out, but for members wanting to book holidays etc, it's looking like the dates you may need to avoid if you can are Friday 6th or Saturday 7th November 2020, Saturday 12th December 2020, Thursday 21st January 2021, Sunday 7 March 2021, Sat 12th June 2021.

Last chance for £5 ticket offer from Music in the Round

Music in the Round have sent us a £5 ticket offer for the concert on Thursday 6 Feb, 7.15pm at the Crucible Studio. Concert is Beethoven, Vaughan Williams and Skempton sung by James Gilchrist with Ensemble 360; details at <http://www.musicintheround.co.uk/event.php?id=1396>. The code to use over the phone or online is SHEFPHIL5, maximum 2 per customer.

Support Sheffield's young musicians: Mahler 2 on Monday 13 April 2020, City Hall

We are invited to sing in the choir for the finale of Mahler's 2nd Symphony on Monday 13th April (Easter Monday). This is a great way to support the young musicians of the City of Sheffield Youth Orchestra in a concert featuring soloists Elizabeth Cragg, soprano, and Anna Harvey, Mezzo soprano. For more information and to sign-up please use the form at [Choir Registration](#). Please feel free to pass this invitation on to colleagues and friends. www.csyo.org.uk

Reminder - singing Day with Paul Mealor

Members might be interested in going to a singing day with Paul Mealor on Sat 14 March: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/singing-day-with-prof-paul-mealor-tickets-83972585263>

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, Chorus and Classical Sheffield websites and passwords

If ever you don't receive the weekly update, please contact Membership Officer Marianne Grayson at MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org. However 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.

A reminder of the Classical Sheffield Member's Area: <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/about> ; the password is **moremusic**.

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org

Privacy Policy – summary SPC uses member emails in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) May 2018, ie, only to help run the Chorus and keep members informed about SPC activities. SPC will never pass your data to third parties - if another member asks for your contact details SPC will only ever share them if you consent. SPC will never use your data to send messages from third parties. Weekly updates are uploaded to the Chorus website every week, however email is the easiest and quickest method of sharing information so we hope you continue to allow us to send them to you. However, you may opt out by contacting administrator@sheffieldphil.org. The full Privacy Policy is on the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/about-us/privacy-policy/>