

**Important: Zoom invitation is below and won't be sent out via another email**

**Read on for: Invitation to on-line rehearsal on Tue 14 July; Help with editing please; Darius recordings; Please return Verdi scores asap; Buy Vespers score; Musical resources (updated); Diary dates, Reminders – *Messiah* refunds, subscriptions, Maggie's exercises, Amazon, support; Take care; Tell us if contact details change; Websites and passwords; Contact emails**

Update Saturday 11 July 2020 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

**Invitation to online rehearsal on Tuesday 14 July (3 attachments)**

Our next on-line rehearsal is on Tuesday 14 July at 7pm.

**Here is the invitation to join, which Marianne won't be sending out separately this time:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83793814789>**

**Meeting ID: 837 9381 4789**

We will be doing Since By Man (46) and Worthy is the Lamb (53) from *Messiah*, and movements 1 and 3 from the Rachmaninov (attached). Chair Paul Henstridge has kindly offered to print music and post it to anyone who has difficulties doing this at home, contact Paul at [chairman@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:chairman@sheffieldphil.org). Grateful thanks again to Marianne for hosting, to Darius for leading, and to Rachel and Maggie for their contributions.

For this second rehearsal Marianne asks people to re-name themselves in the format: **Chorus number First name Surname**. This will enable her to make a registration list much more easily, so please do this if you can; instructions are attached.

We had an amazing turn-out of 139 members at the last rehearsal, which is fantastic. However, anyone who would like to join the rehearsal but who doesn't have a PC or laptop, or whose internet connection is poor, could join in by ordinary phone by calling a landline number. You would be able to hear everything, and contribute - but obviously not see anything. The numbers to call are London and Edinburgh landline numbers, and they aren't freephone numbers, so this would be really only be an option for people who have an unlimited UK landline calls package. Contact Marianne at [MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org) for further information.

**Recording the rehearsals – plea for help**

We are hoping to record the on-line rehearsals so they can be put in the Member's Area of the website, enabling members to use them to go over material if they wish. The recording will show us all listening or singing, but you'll only be able to hear Darius and the piano, Maggie, Rachel and the recorded versions of whichever work we're doing – you won't be able to hear anyone singing. The recording won't be in the public domain so everything is acceptable from a GDPR point of view. However, anyone who prefers not to be seen can turn their video off during the rehearsal and there will just be a blank square where their face would have been.

**Is there anyone in the Chorus who has the skills required to edit the recording?** We would be very grateful for a volunteer to undertake this task. Please contact Membership Officer Marianne Grayson if you are willing to volunteer, at [MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org).

**Listen to Rachmaninov piano duet played by Darius**

Darius has been unable to get to an organ during the lock-down, so to keep his hand in on the piano he's been playing the final two movements of the Rachmaninov Suite for Two Pianos (playing both parts). If you'd like to listen to the result, he's recorded them: [Listen to the](#)

[Tarantelle](#) and [Listen to the Romance](#) . If you have any difficulties downloading these, you can listen to the recordings on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Information](#)

If you haven't already, have a listen to the recording of the new brass arrangement of the soprano aria 'How Beautiful Are the Feet' from Handel's *Messiah*. The new arrangement is one of three from *Messiah* that Darius has put together during the lock-down. Soprano Catrin Pryce-Jones was to have performed *Messiah* with us in April, and was happy to make the recording with Black Dyke Band, all performing from their own homes during lock-down. You can listen to it on the Chorus website: [Listen to How Beautiful Are the Feet](#)

### **Reminder - please return Verdi Requiem scores**

The Verdi Requiem scores are to be returned to the hirers by August, so please can everyone do their best to get their score to Els Pearse as soon as possible? You can either post it to Els at 49 Westbourne Road S10 2QT, Telephone 0114 268 3027, or drop it off at her home. Els will leave a plastic box in the porch; the box will have a lid so be sure to wear gloves to remove this before dropping your score in. Anyone who will find it difficult to get to a Post Office or to Westbourne Road, please contact Els who will try to arrange for the score to be collected.

### **Reminder – buy Rachmaninov Vespers**

The version of the Rachmaninov Vespers that we will use is ALL NIGHT VIGIL Opus 37 by Musica Russica, ISBN 0-9629460-6-0 (it has a pink cover). Members might want to order a copy for themselves, since we won't be able to distribute any copies that Els might have otherwise ordered on our behalf. It costs just over £31 from [Ackerman Music](#) or [Presto Music](#) (very rapid turn-around apparently) or a little bit less [from Forewoods Forescore](#) or you might be able to get a good second-hand copy from eBay or Amazon (use the [SPC Amazon Smile page](#) link to make a bit of money for the Chorus).

### **Musical Resources**

#### A From Making Music

#### **1. Keep enjoying music (updated – new items are added at the top)**

We all know how good just listening to music is for the soul. So much music already exists online and through national and local broadcasts, and lots more is being added.

- Dark Sky Voices – a superb group of singers that includes soprano Ann Garbett's daughter Rachel. Hear their [beautiful version of Amazing Grace](#) or [I Wish I Knew How it Feels to Be Free](#).
- The Stay at Home Choir's gorgeous virtual performance of [O Radiant Dawn](#) from The Strathclyde Motets by James MacMillan
- [Jonathan Scott's free on-line organ recitals](#) – next one (the eighth) is on 21 July but they are all available to listen to on his website
- [Make Music Day 2020 official broadcast](#)
- [Making Music Virtual concerts](#) – by Making Music member groups from across the UK
- Opera North's singing workshops [From Couch to Chorus](#)
- [Sheffield Music Academy students' first mid-week concert](#)
- [Jonathan Scott playing Elgar's Nimrod](#) on the largest pipe organ in Asia
- Composer Eric Whitaker has been experimenting with virtual choirs for some years. Here his composition '[Cloudburst](#)' on [You Tube](#) for a taste of what's been done, and see his [website for further details](#).
- Royal Opera ballet and opera performances are free during lockdown, [see ROH website](#)

- [Sheffield Youth Orchestra's short video of We'll Meet Again](#) recorded by each child in her/his own home. Arranged, conducted & produced by George Morton
- [Messiah on self isolation choir website](#)
- Manchester Camerata are running regular [Mini Music Makers sessions for children](#), which are fun and interactive.
- [London Philharmonic Orchestra online](#) – performances, Question and Answer sessions and more.
- See [Camden Choir's on-line performance of True Colours](#) (and other delights)
- Second soprano Rachel Mallaband is one of the Stay at Home Choir singers backing the King's Singers in [this very beautiful recording](#) – do have a listen. You can join the next collaboration at [Stay at Home Choir](#)
- [Music in the Round's digital Chamber music festival](#) – all performances available to view until 31 May 2020.
- [We'll Meet Again from Sheffield Youth Orchestra](#)
- [Wild Wild West from the Mozart Group](#)
- [Jonathan Scott online organ recital from Albion Church](#) ends with Widor's Toccata
- [Roderick Williams and family](#) - lock-down concert from their home
- Tom Leech on-line sessions for primary children [www.schoolssingingprogramme.org.uk](http://www.schoolssingingprogramme.org.uk)
- St John's Passion from Isolation featuring Daniel Norman (Evangelist), Roderick Williams (Jesus), Catherine Wyn-Rogers, James Gilchrist, Kings Singers, The Sixteen and others. The [digital programme](#) lists participants, different episodes, chorale music.
- Another isolation concert, this time [Tenebrae on BBC i-player](#) (you will need to sign in).
- Classical Sheffield's administrator, Kate Shipway's guide to virtual choir activities; see [Hints and tips for virtual choirs on the Classical Sheffield website](#)
- Classic FM have produced an extremely comprehensive and regularly updated list of the [best live-streamed and classical concerts available online](#).
- First Position Strings (a Sheffield viola ensemble) [online recording of Bach's O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden](#) – look out for first soprano Katrina Hulse.
- Orchestra of Opera North's [online performance of Strauss' 'Also Sprach Zarathustra'](#).
- [Jonathan Scott's harmonium & piano recital with brother Tom](#) at home in Manchester:
- [Jonathan Scott's super online organ recital from the Bridgewater Hall](#)
- [Classic FM's list of choirs and orchestras that have performed at-home concerts](#)
- Choraline's Self Isolation Choir <https://www.theselfisolationchoir.com/>
- On a lighter note: [Beethoven 5 video](#) (well worth watching)
- [Stay At Home Choir's Vivaldi Gloria](#)
- [Zurich Opera House's Verdi Requiem](#)
- [Berlin Philharmonika's digital concerts free for 30 days following use of voucher](#)
- Music section of [Chatter Pack article](#) lists streaming of live and pre-recorded concerts.
- [New York Metropolitan Opera](#)
- [Vienna State Opera](#)
- [Chamber Music Scotland](#)
- [What's on Stage](#) has listings of online performances (musicals and opera).
- Live Music Now Scotland's series of living room concerts [LMNS YouTube channel](#).
- National Youth Choirs of Scotland [Facebook page](#) - performances & singing exercises.
- Royal Scottish National Orchestra Friday night viewings [YouTube Channel](#).
- [Black Dress Code](#) digital concert hall - fee charged, passed on to musicians.
- The BBC are offering new classical content as part of their [Culture in Quarantine](#) festival.
- [Get Creative UK](#) festival and [Make Music Day](#) on 21 June are both going digital.

## 2 Virtual choirs

- Link to [Eric Whitacre's Virtual Choir](#)
- [The Sofa Singers](#), led by James Sills
- [Great British Home Chorus](#), led by Gareth Malone OBE
- [Stay at Home Choir](#)
- [Distant-Sing](#), run by our corporate member, Choir Community
- [Duet Yourself](#) (on Facebook)
- [Corona Virus Choir](#) (on Facebook)
- [Choir Choir Choir](#), led by Nobu Adilman and Daveed Goldman (on Facebook)

## B Resources already on the Chorus website (in [Members Area / Rehearsals](#))

- [Brahms Songs of Destiny](#) on You Tube with score
- [Rehearsal Notes Verdi Requiem 8 Mar](#)
- [Verdi Requiem on You Tube](#)
- [Verdi Requiem Voice parts on Choralia](#)
- [Verdi Requiem voice parts on CyberBass](#)
- [Verdi Requiem voice parts on Chord Perfect](#)
- [Guide to Verdi Requiem](#)
- [Mahler8choirnotes](#)
- [Mahler 8 on YouTube](#)
- [Mahler 8 mp3 voice parts on Choralia](#)
- [Mahler 8 on Choraline](#)
- [Rehearsal notes for Messiah](#)
- [Messiah Choruses on You Tube with score](#)
- [Messiah Voice mp3 parts on Choralia](#)
- [Messiah online parts on CyberBass](#)
- [Video lessons to improve your skills in rhythm, tonal centering, and intervals](#)
- [Worksheets to go with the video lessons](#)
- [How do singers protect their voices?](#)
- [How opera singers take care of their voices](#)
- [Take care of your voice – British Voice Association](#)
- [Vocal health section of The Vocalist website](#)
- [Sing for Pleasure's Vocal health leaflet](#)
- [NIDCD advice on taking care of your voice](#)
- [Link to Maggie's vocal exercises](#)

## **Diary dates**

*Dates for 2020-21 – likely to be postponed or cancelled: Friday 6 November 2020 (After Hours concert); Saturday 12 December 2020 (Christmas carol concerts 2pm and 5.30pm)*

Dates for 2021: Sunday 24 January 2021 (SICS concert), Sat 19 June 2021 (Faure Requiem – self funded but with some support from Halle Concert Society and SIV).

Yet to be confirmed: May 2021 self funded concert in the cathedral, programme to be arranged but will include Rachmaninov's Vespers. March 2022 (re-scheduled Mahler 2 for Classical Sheffield festival, now moved to 2022), April 2022 (eg Saturday 23 April or thereabouts) re-scheduled *Messiah* concert .

Dates for 2021-22 under discussion: Re-scheduled Mahler 8 possibly in May or June 2022.

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](#).

### **Reminder - *Messiah* refunds**

Members who bought *Messiah* tickets at rehearsal can get a re-fund via Finance Officer Graham Dawson ([GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org)). Please state how many tickets you purchased at each price, and supply your bank details. Graham will reimburse you via a bank transfer. NB - this includes folk who purchased their tickets from the cathedral shop, which is currently not responding to people requesting refunds. We will inform the cathedral that we have made the refunds. Those who bought on-line will be refunded by WeGotTickets.

### **Reminder - Subscriptions**

When the outlook for the future is clearer, committee members will consider the implications for subscriptions for 2020-21. It's quite likely that the recommendation will be to reduce the subscription rate. Subscription rates must be agreed by members at the AGM, which is in November 2020 and is likely to be a virtual affair.

In the meantime, for simplicity and to enable us to continue to pay our professionals, the current subscription process has been left as it is, so if you pay by standing order and are able, please continue with your payments. However, if you are facing financial difficulty, please contact Graham Dawson who, in confidence, will look to changing you onto the reduced rate and provide any necessary reimbursement by bank transfer or cheque. Please also contact Graham if you were kind enough to gift aid your subscription but your circumstances have now changed and you need to cancel the gift aid mandate.

Graham's contact details are: [GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org), telephone 01226 730100.

### **Reminder - Maggie's Vocal Exercises**

The five sets of vocal exercises from Maggie, digitised by Rachel, are on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing Your Voice](#).

### **Reminder - Amazon**

Members may be making some purchases from Amazon now that we can't get to the same range of shops. If you do, please consider using the links on various pages of the Chorus website to the [SPC Amazon Smile page](#). Any purchases made from here will result in the Chorus getting a small donation (0.05% of the cost of eligible purchases) from Amazon.

### **Reminder - support**

Louise Dawson, Julian Sullivan and Allan Lacey, will talk to any member feeling worried, isolated or lonely during this difficult time. If anyone wants to talk with them (it doesn't have to

be a religious discussion) then they should contact one of them by email in the first instance. [louise@revdawson.co.uk](mailto:louise@revdawson.co.uk); [j.v.sullivan@btinternet.com](mailto:j.v.sullivan@btinternet.com); [AllanLacey@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:AllanLacey@sheffieldphil.org) Dick Williams has offered to talk to anyone who wishes – on 0114 2308358. Thank you to all.

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

If any of your contact details change, including address, email or telephone number, 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, 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](mailto: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](mailto:chairman@sheffieldphil.org)

**Administrator Anne Adams** [administrator@sheffieldphil.org](mailto: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](mailto:administrator@sheffieldphil.org). The full Privacy Policy is on the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/about-us/privacy-policy/>