Read on for: information about Tue 20 Oct 2020 rehearsal; Recorded rehearsals and attendance; Diary dates, Reminders – singers' masks, Maggie's concerts, route map, France trip photos and commentary; Music in the Round recruiting; Tell us if contact details change; Websites and passwords; Contact emails

Update Sunday 18 October 2020 (also at Members Area / Weekly Updates)

Invitation to online rehearsal on Tuesday 20 October 2020 (3 attachments)

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 20 October 2020 at 7pm. The rehearsal will be a new departure for us - partly live, partly via Zoom. The link is provided below.

https://zoom.us/j/91848712798?pwd=WIV2cUxNRXIgb2FEMC9MaktHNnpCdz09

Meeting ID: 918 4871 2798

Passcode: 123456

Telephone dial-up numbers: +44 208 080 6591; +44 208 080 6592; +44 330 088 5830; +44 131 460 1196; +44 203 481 5237; +44 203 481 5240; +44 203 901 7895

Instructions for using Zoom can be found in the Members Area of the Chorus website at <u>Members Area / Rehearsals</u>.

You will remember that because of social distancing, only 35 members can attend live rehearsals at any one time, so Darius has split the list of volunteers into two groups, who will attend on alternate weeks. The list is attached, and is on the website at <u>Members Area /</u><u>Rehearsals</u>.

Volunteers need to read the attached 'What to Expect' document as well as the associated Risk Assessment, to ensure they fully understand the Covid-19 measures they need to take at the live rehearsals. Thanks again to Rehearsals and Concerts Manager James Oliver for these documents, which can also be found on the Chorus website at <u>Members Area / Covid-19</u>

Volunteers shouldn't arrive too early as we can't start letting you in until around 7pm, when Maggie will start the warm up for the people at home; people in the room can join in once they are seated. We will start the rehearsal at 7.15 and continue without a break until around 8.20 to 8.25, followed by the breakout session for folk at home. Unfortunately the folks actually present must NOT socialise at all and should leave immediately, without talking (to keep the viral load down as much as possible).

Because this is the first live rehearsal, we will do a selection from what we've rehearsed already: Rachmaninov 1, 13, 15 (pink score), the *Resonet* and Rutter's *Gaelic Blessing*. The Rutter and *Resonet* are available on the Chorus website at <u>Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music</u>.

The live volunteers each week will be replacing the recording that those at home sing along to, and there is an expectation that they will be familiar with the music, given that we have been rehearsing it for some time now. Therefore, please can those volunteers who have not attended virtual rehearsals make sure that they go through any music with which they are not familiar, using the piano at home, YouTube recordings, rehearsal tracks, or the recordings of our rehearsals, as necessary. Many thanks.

If you find you can't attend the live rehearsals at Wesley Chapel, please inform Marianne Grayson (email at end of this update) as soon as you can, so that a substitute can be organised. Please make sure it's Marianne that you contact; emails sent in reply to this update go to Anne Adams, who has to then pass it to Marianne, introducing unnecessary delays. Grateful thanks to Darius, Rachel and Marianne for organising the technical aspects of the live rehearsals, and to James and Paul for sorting the logisitics.

Recorded rehearsals and attendance

Here are the links to last week's recorded rehearsals; thanks to Kath Eadon for editing.

- Rachmaninov Vespers No 15 13 October 2020
- Rutter A Gaelic Blessing 13 October 2020
- Rachmaninov Vespers No 13 13 October

All rehearsal recordings are uploaded to the Member's Area of the Chorus website at Members Area/Rehearsals. Please remember not to share the recordings via any kind of public forum, to ensure we stay within copyright law.

Please note that if you miss a virtual rehearsal, but subsequently take part using that week's recording, it will count as an attendance, just as if you'd attended on the Tuesday evening. Please inform Marianne Grayson after you've watched the recording so she can amend your attendance record. Darius and the committee are currently pondering attendance rules under these unusual circumstances, so watch this space for further news.

Diary dates

Dates for 2020-21 – almost certain to be postponed or cancelled: Friday 6 November 2020 (After Hours concert); Saturday 12 December 2020 (Christmas carol concerts 2pm and 5.30pm)Sunday 24 January 2021 (SICS concert)

December 2020 : Virtual performance of Darius' new arrangement of Resonet in Laudibus with Black Dyke Band, Rutter's Gaelic Blessing and other carols, presented by Patron Petroc Trelawny with reading from Patron Sam West, recorded from our homes,

Dates for 2021 vet to be confirmed: Sat 15 May 2021 self funded concert in the cathedral (Rachmaninov's Vespers); Sat 19 June 2021 (Faure Requiem- self funded but with some support from Halle Concert Society and SIV).

Dates for 2021-22: March 2022 (re-scheduled Mahler 2 for Classical Sheffield festival, itself now moved to 2022), Saturday 23 April 2022 (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 - singer's masks

Some singers in the choirs that Rachel Fright runs have started using singers' masks, which have a bit more space for breathing - basically the mask doesn't touch the mouth and nose end. Here's a link if members would like to investigate:

https://www.funkymasks.uk/store/singers-masks Thanks Rachel.

Reminder - Maggie's Sing-along Concerts

Maggie invites us to join her to sing a selection of much loved choral classics, in our own homes, accompanied by our own recordings. There's a document on the Chorus website at Members Area / Concert arrangements; but the season is listed below; all start at 7.30pm.

- Oct 24th Dvorak Requiem
- Nov 7th Elgar The Light of Life, and RVW Serenade to Music

- Nov 21 Bach Parts 1 and 2 Christmas Oratorio
- Nov 28th Bach Parts 3 and 5 Christmas Oratorio
- Dec 12th Handel Judas Maccabaeus
- Dec 19th Handel Part 1 Messiah.

Reminder - Route map

As you know, Darius and the committee have produced a route map to help us plan for a phased return to full live rehearsals. The idea is to make sure we have taken the steps required at each stage as early as possible, so that we can spring into action as soon as Government guidance indicates it is safe to do so. There's a copy of the route map on the Chorus website at <u>Members Area / Covid-19</u>

Reminder - Tour de France photos and commentary

Sue Pennington's excellent and amusing commentary about our trip to France, illustrated by some of Paul Henstridge's great photos, can now be viewed on the Members Area of the Chorus website, at <u>Members Area Tour de France.</u> Many thanks Sue and Paul!

Reminder - Music in the Round is recruiting

Music in the Round is currently recruiting for two new positions with Music in the Round: Head of Programmes and Development Manager. Deadline 9.00am, Monday 26 October. Interviews: Head of Programmes Friday 13 November and Friday 27 November; Development Manager Friday 6 November. Follow this link for further information.

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 <u>emailchange2019@sheffieldphil.org</u>to ensure that your details are amended on the Membership database and that you continue to receive the weekly update.

Weekly updates, Chorus and Classical Sheffield websites and passwords

If ever you don't receive the weekly update, please contact Membership Officer Marianne Grayson (see below). However it is uploaded every week in <u>Members Area / Weekly Updates</u>. The chorus user name is the same for every member, it's the word *member* and the password is *dariu5*; please don't share these. Urgent messages 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 <u>http://sheffieldphil.org</u> 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: <u>https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/about</u>; the password is **moremusic.**

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams <u>administrator@sheffieldphil.org</u> Membership Officer Marianne Grayson <u>MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org</u> Finance Officer Graham Dawson <u>GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org</u> New members Officer Sally Turnbull <u>SallyTurnbull@sheffieldphil.org</u>

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