

Weekly update for w/c Monday 8 October 2018

Rehearsal reminders

Tomorrow evening the rehearsal will be in the Upper School as usual. The first half will be a sectional rehearsal with ladies in the main hall and gentlemen in Lab 5, which is where Maggie usually runs her sessions.

Georgina Hulse has amended the dates of her note-bashing sessions for the After Hours music, in view of the new concert date of 30 November; this affects the dates for the remaining sight-reading sessions, which have also changed. Please see below for details.

Apologies to all for the lateness of last week's update and the inconvenience caused, congratulations for finding your way into the hall nonetheless, and thanks to everyone for remaining cheerful and positive. The school has informed us that there shouldn't be any need to re-locate to Lower School for the rest of this season.

Links to Chair Paul Henstridge's rehearsal notes, and to YouTube recordings and practice tapes for all the After Hours concert pieces, are on the Chorus website in the usual place - [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#) (password reminder at the end of this update).

After Hours note-bashing sessions start 11 November (note date change)

Georgina Hulse's two note-bashing sessions for the After Hours concert music will now be on Tuesday 11 November and Tuesday 27 November. Each session will run from 6.15pm to 6.50pm, in Lab 5 which is where Maggie's sessions take place. Georgina will try to accommodate the needs of those who attend, so do try to let her know which pieces you'd like to work on before the sessions if you can. However, feel free to just turn up!

Date changes for sight reading sessions (next one is next week)

Georgina's sight reading sessions are open to anyone; they run from 6.15pm to 6.50pm, in Lab 5 (where Maggie's sessions happen). The remaining sessions this term will now be on 16 October, 30 October and 11 December.

Advance notice of audition date

The next set of auditions and re-auditions will take place at King Edwards School on Saturday 10 November from 10.00 to 13.00. Those who missed the summer re-auditions please put this date in your diary to avoid the risk of not being able to sing in concerts after this date. Please contact John Spence (email at end of each weekly update) if you have any problems.

Reminder - temporary stage manager required for After Hours concert on 30 November

As you know, John Spence has taken Leave of Absence to enable him to care for his wife Sue, who has dementia. John had already indicated that he would step down from his role as Membership Officer at the AGM in November, and we are hoping that two members of the chorus will step up and volunteer to take over the two roles into which John's work has been split.

In the meantime we need someone who will step into the breach for the After Hours concert on 30 November. Administrator Anne Adams does most of the liaising with the City Hall and is happy to see to the register, but we need someone to organise the Chorus on the day, eg where we will stand for the concert, how and when to get on and off, arrange for the rostrum and music stand to be in place etc.

The Chorus would be extremely grateful to anyone who volunteers to help us in this way. Please see Chair Paul Henstridge or Administrator Anne Adams if you think you can help. Thank you.

Names needed for trip to Bochum in February 2019

If you would like to travel to Germany to join the Bochum choir to sing Messiah in English, then please contact Finance Officer Graham Dawson within the next two weeks.

This is a prestigious concert given that it is part of their centenary events. However, the Musical Director in Bochum is really concerned about maintaining a high musical standard and, consequently, the rehearsal requirement is to attend on Monday 4th February (piano rehearsal), Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th (both with orchestra). That means travelling out to Germany the weekend before or at the very latest on the morning of Monday 4th February. The earliest return date would be Friday 8th February.

Given the size of the orchestra and numbers in the Bochum Chorus, they have specified that they can only accommodate on stage around 20 SPC members balanced between men and women. SPC members attending will have to pay for their own travel and hotel arrangements although I'm sure that accommodation will be provided by some of the Bochum members if requested.

If you would like to travel to Germany to take part in this concert, then please contact Finance Officer Graham Dawson, either at rehearsal or at graham@swaithehouse.plus.com within the next 2 or 3 weeks. If the trip is significantly oversubscribed then there will be a random selection process to pick those that can go. Details of those travelling need to be finalised by the end of October and once that is settled we can consider travelling preferences.

Please don't be too disappointed if you are not able to sing Messiah in Bochum. There will be a second opportunity to visit and sing in Bochum as part of their Autumn 2019 schedule which has still to be fixed. It is expected that they will be able to accommodate more of us on that occasion.

Please note that there will still be a rehearsal in Sheffield on Tuesday 5th Sheffield for those not travelling to Bochum.

Christmas CDs now just £5 to chorus members

Chorus members who would like to buy copies of the Christmas CD, eg, to send to French hosts for Christmas, may purchase them for £5. Please see Anne Adams if you would like some copies. Anne will bring a few to rehearsals each week; the correct change would be much appreciated.

We are planning a big sales push in the run up to Christmas, and of course at our various Christmas concerts. If anyone has an idea for a possible sales outlet, please let us know - either bass Paul Bedwell at sales@sheffieldphil.org or Anne Adams (email address at the end of every update). The sales terms are advantageous to the retailer, ie, advertised price £10, of which the retailer may keep £5.

Singing Opportunities all voice parts: Child of Our Time, Faure Requiem, Verdi Requiem

See the Chorus website [Members' Area / For information / Singing Opportunities](#)

Diary Dates

See the Chorus website at [Members Area / Diary dates](#).

Apologies and Half-Time Leavers

Please note that apologies for absence should be sent to our Membership Officer John Spence; contact details at the bottom of each update. If you leave a rehearsal at half-time for whatever reason you should make a note of the fact on the Apologies Sheet on the registration desk.

Chorus website

Information about concert arrangements, future dates, our official stage procedure, Darius' rehearsal schedule, re-auditions, where to get rehearsal tracks etc. can be found on the chorus website, in the Member's Area in particular. 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. The chorus user name is member and the password is dariu5; these are for chorus members only so please don't share them.

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org

Membership Officer John Spence membership@sheffieldphil.org