

Read on for: info about Tue 24 Nov rehearsal; Recording for the virtual concert inc request for photos; AGM thanks; Message from Librarian; Recorded rehearsals; Subscriptions; Thanks to Helen Crimlisk - SPC Facebook; Invitation to Carols in the Kitchen; Diary dates, Reminders – Maggie’s concerts; Tell us if contact details change; Websites and passwords; Contact emails

Update Sunday 22 November 2020 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Invitation to rehearsal on Tuesday 24 November 2020 (attachment)

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 24 November 2020 at 7pm. The rehearsal will be via Zoom. The link is provided below.

<https://zoom.us/j/91848712798?pwd=WIV2cUxNRXlqb2FEMC9MaktHNpCdz09>

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 [Members Area / Rehearsals](#).

We will rehearse Langford’s arrangement of *Deck the Hall*. Music has been sent previously but is available at [http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/Darius\\_Battiwalla/SPCdownloads.html](http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/Darius_Battiwalla/SPCdownloads.html), and also on the website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#)

There will be a break during the rehearsal, during which members can record *Deck the Hall*. Breakout rooms will be set up so that those not recording can have a chat before the rehearsal resumes; alternatively you might want to get yourself a cuppa or take a comfort break.

We will also have a look at Gardner’s *Holly and the Ivy*, the music for which is attached for those who don’t already have a copy. Please note that there is a set of instructions which you will need to look at before the rehearsal, on Darius’ website (link above). Both music and instructions are also on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#)

### Recording for the virtual carol concert

The guide tracks and music for *Deck the Hall* are available to download via the link sent previously, at [http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/Darius\\_Battiwalla/SPCdownloads.html](http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/Darius_Battiwalla/SPCdownloads.html). You can also listen to them on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Concert Arrangements](#) (password details provided at the end of this and every weekly update).

Please send completed recordings to [dariusbattiwalla@talktalk.net](mailto:dariusbattiwalla@talktalk.net) (sopranos and tenors) or to [rfrightrecordings@gmail.com](mailto:rfrightrecordings@gmail.com) (altos and basses), by end of Saturday 28 November 2020.

Instructions for recording at home have been sent with previous updates but are also on the website, at [Members Area / Concert Arrangements](#). Please read the instructions carefully – and don’t forget to use your Chorus number and the title of the work in the filename or on the email you use to send it in.

Concert running order: *Resonet in Laudibus* arr. D Battiwalla (Black Dyke Band, Darius Battiwalla organ); *Suo Gan* (Susan Voss violin, Eira Lynn Jones harp; Darius Battiwalla organ); *Deck the Hall* arr. Langford (a cappella); *Gaelic Blessing* John Rutter (Rachel Fright piano);

*Holly and Ivy* (Rachel Fright piano); *Hark the Herald* (Black Dyke Band, Darius Battiwalla organ). Concert presented by BBC Radio 3's Petroc Trelawny.

Don't forget to send Christmassy photographs to illustrate our virtual carol concert, to soprano Georgina Hulse at [GeorginaHulse@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:GeorginaHulse@sheffieldphil.org).

### **AGM – thank you**

Thank you to everyone who attended the AGM on Tuesday. It all went very well, especially the electronic voting. Many thanks to Paul for chairing, to Marianne for hosting and to Sue for taking her final set of minutes.

Many people were moved by the closing comments made by our President, Rachel Copley, who has therefore been persuaded to share them here (and in the recording, see below). Many thanks Rachel, you are wonderful!

*'This is my chance, on your behalf, dear members, to thank a load of people for all that they have done for our choir during the last year, and, boy, don't we need to do that 'in spades' at this time!*

*To have had our musical lives so torn apart since March, has been difficult to take, but thanks to Darius, Rachel and Maggie, and Paul, Anne, Graham, Marianne, and all on the committee (and to some who are not), the Sheffield Phil has continued to meet in its virtual form, (plus three precious weeks incorporating a 'live' session of the choir), enabling us to share in making music again. This has not only benefitted the Chorus, but our virtual music will reach those at St. Luke's, and also the wider public with our Christmas offering, so our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of Team Phil for your tremendous work on our behalf.*

*Music has helped me hugely through these last months, as has taking care of my garden. I'm sure that I'm not alone in that! The balmy days of Spring and Summer are long gone now, but the birds are on their feeders, and the winter shrubs and pansies are giving a bit of colour in these somewhat grey days.*

*In our previous home, we had a lovely, if slightly eccentric, chap who helped us tame the garden, and he was fond of giving me updates on the state, and health, of the plants in the garden. If something was not flourishing as he thought it should, he would move it, saying, 'I've moved that shrub bodily, Mrs. Copley, moved it bodily, to give it a better chance!'*

*To continue the analogy, I'm looking forward to the time when we can all be moved 'bodily', back to the choral formation that we love, to the nurture of the soil of companionship, and to thrive in the sunshine of making, and performing, live music together again.*

*With renewed thanks to all our leaders, and with love and best wishes to you all for a safe ending to this year, and a more hopeful start to the next. Rachel Copley, President'*

### **Message from Flick, our new Librarian**

*'It wasn't appropriate to jump in on the AGM but I would like to say that Els is going to be a hard act to follow. I looked out Bill Smyllie's book to check on her predecessors and since I joined, Els was the 6<sup>th</sup> librarian and only a couple of years behind the longest ever serving Librarian in the Phil's history. Thank you Els, for doing a demanding job which enables the choir in every sense at every event. It is also appropriate to thank her loyal sidekicks, without whom the queues to collect/return music would have run down the stairs and into the carpark! I will hopefully be recruiting my own team once we get to congregating chorally, so any volunteers for those support roles would be greatly appreciated. Once again, thanks to Els for remaining in post beyond the call of duty. Best wishes, Flick'*

### **Recorded rehearsals**

Here are the links to last week's recorded rehearsal – together with the moving speech given by Rachel at the end of the AGM; grateful thanks to Kath Eadon for editing. Remember to tell Membership Officer Marianne Grayson that if you miss a rehearsal and use the recordings to attend after the event, so she can credit your attendance on the register.

- [Suo Gân Rehearsal 17 November 2020](#)
- [Deck the Hall Rehearsal 17 November 2020](#)
- [Rachel's thanks AGM 17 November 2020](#)

All rehearsal recordings are uploaded to the Member's Area of the Chorus website at [Members Area/Rehearsals](#) (password details provided at the end of this and every weekly update). Please remember not to share the recordings via any kind of public forum, to ensure we stay within copyright law.

### **Subscriptions for 2020-21 (attachment)**

Having agreed at the AGM to reduce the subscription fee to £66, it's now time to pay, and the subscription form is attached. **Please remember that everyone needs to complete a new form each year, even if you pay by standing order and want to maintain your payments at the previous rate.** Please send your completed form electronically if at all possible; an email return will 'count' as a signed form. Members should complete the form using their full names as recognised by HMRC, otherwise Gift Aid collection will be problematic. It really helps if you can enable Gift Aid, in which case please remember to complete the Gift Aid section on the form – though no problem if you prefer not to or can't. We will delay the issue of new membership cards until we can meet in person again.

Please note that those who pay by standing order will need to amend the details if they want to pay the reduced rate. It's easier for Graham if members pay by internet bank transfer or standing order; cash payments are obviously impossible at the moment. If you want to pay by cheque then please put your Family name and Chorus Number on the back (eg dawson806) and post your cheque to Graham Dawson, Swaithe House, Mitchell Street, Swaithe, Barnsley, S30 3 QF. Cheques will be quarantined for a time before being opened and taken to the bank.

A number of members have indicated their intention to continue to pay the full subs, and we are really very grateful for their generosity. However, please don't worry if you prefer to pay the reduced fee – and if anyone has difficulty paying for any reason, then please contact Graham – his phone numbers and email address are at the bottom of the subscription form.

### **Chorus Facebook – many thanks, we have a volunteer!**

Thank you so much Helen Crimlisk who has very kindly volunteered to manage our two Facebook pages. It will be great to maintain an effective presence on this social media platform. If anyone has an idea for a posting, do contact Helen at [HelenCrimlisk@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:HelenCrimlisk@sheffieldphil.org). And thank you again Helen – you're a star!

### **Carols in the Kitchen**

An exclusive premiere of a new choral work by Eric Whitacre will be aired in a free virtual carol concert, *'Carols in the Kitchen'*, on Sunday 13th December at 6pm. Members are invited to join a Live Q&A with Eric hosted by Classic FM's Alexander Armstrong at 5.15pm just before the concert. Eric will discuss his inspiration for the piece and be able to take questions. *'Carols in the Kitchen'* will also feature performances from Ellie Laugharne, Roderick Williams and Lulu, readings from Fiona Bruce, James Norton, Sue Perkins, Stanley Tucci and Dominic West, and of course some of your favourite congregational carols to sing along with. You can [sign up for free here](#).

## 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 Carol Concert with Black Dyke Band, Petroc Trelawny (presenter), recorded from our own homes. Running order: *Resonet in Laudibus* arr. D Battiwalla (Black Dyke Band, Darius Battiwalla organ); *Suo Gan* (Susan Voss violin, Eira Lynn Jones harp; Darius Battiwalla organ); *Deck the Hall* arr. Langford (a cappella); *Gaelic Blessing* John Rutter (Rachel Fright piano); *Holly and Ivy* (Rachel Fright piano); *Hark the Herald* (Black Dyke Band, Darius Battiwalla organ)

Dates for 2021 yet 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), 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](#) (password details provided at the end of this and every weekly update).

## 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.

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

## 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.

## 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 [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#). 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 <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)

**Membership Officer Marianne Grayson** [MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org)

**Finance Officer Graham Dawson** [GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org)

**New members Officer Sally Turnbull** [SallyTurnbull@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:SallyTurnbull@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/>