

[Happy New Year;](#) [New link for rehearsal on Tue;](#) [Subscriptions;](#) [Good wishes from Bochum and Perigues;](#) [Diary dates;](#) [Reminders – Classical Sheffield,](#) [Roundabout,](#) [Tenebrae concerts,](#) [Tell us if contact details change;](#) [Websites and passwords;](#) [Contact emails](#)

Weekly Update Saturday 02 January 2021 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year to everyone! Let's hope 2021 will improve steadily through the year and that we will be able to get together to sing as a whole chorus before too long.

New link for rehearsal on Tuesday 5 January 2021

Our first rehearsal of 2021 will be on Tuesday 05 January 2021 at 7pm, when we will rehearse *Messiah* (part 2) and the Rachmaninov Vespers, movements 8 and 9.

Please note that the Zoom link is a new one, provided below. We will use this new link each week from now on.

<https://zoom.us/j/98573583645?pwd=czduZWUwdldOa09DWVpORU9UMktPUT09>

Meeting ID: 985 7358 3645

Passcode: 123456

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

Instructions for using Zoom can be found in the Members Area of the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#).

Although much of the country, including Derbyshire, is now in Tier 4, South Yorkshire including Sheffield is not. In fact, the infection rate is lower than it was before Christmas, so we have decided to continue with the combined live / online rehearsals.

Chorus members from Groups 1 and 2 were contacted very recently, and a good number are from Tier 3 areas and have indicated their willingness to continue to rehearse live at the Wesley Hall, Crookes. Marianne will let the relevant members know when they are needed at Wesley Hall.

We are hoping to re-start the individual coaching sessions with Maggie from Tuesday 12 January 2021, in another room at Wesley Hall. This second room is huge so there will be no distancing issues. Thanks to Maggie for her continued commitment to the vocal health of our Chorus members.

Grateful thanks as always to Darius, Rachel and Marianne for organising the technical aspects of all the rehearsals, and to James, Paul, Jim and Anne for sorting the live rehearsals.

Subscriptions for 2020-21 (attachment)

If you haven't already paid your subscription fees, then please make arrangements to do so as soon as you can; the form is attached. At the AGM we agreed to reduce the fee to £66, but do feel free to pay more if you wish. **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 to Graham Dawson electronically if at all possible, at GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org; an email return will 'count' as a signed form. Members should complete the form using their full names as recognised by HMRC. 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, S70 3QF. 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 the generosity of anyone who decides to do this. 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.

Good wishes from Bochum and from Perigeux (two attachments)

We sent a Christmas card to the choirs in Bochum and Perigeux, and received cards from both. The text of the card from Hans-jorg from Bochum is attached, together with an image of the card from Éric MAHIEU, Chair of the Perigeux cathedral choir, who also said (roughly translated) '*What can we wish for? Beautiful scores (within our reach, of course ...), any grades, here are some (above average, if possible ...), pure air (not confined ...), and a new audience (and soon without a mask, hopefully ...)!'*

Diary dates

Dates for 2020-21 yet to be confirmed: Sat 15 May 2021 (Rachmaninov's *Vespers* - self funded concert in the cathedral); Sat 19 June 2021 (Faure *Requiem* – self funded but with some support from Halle Concert Society and SIV)

Dates for 2021-22 yet to be confirmed: Saturday 18 December 2021 (City Hall carol concerts with Black Dyke Band), Sunday 07 March 2022 (re-scheduled Mahler Symphony No. 2 City Hall), Saturday 23 April 2022 (re-scheduled Handel *Messiah* concert with Black Dyke Band, City Hall).

Under discussion: Walton *Belshazzar's Feast* at City Hall, Rutter *Gloria* with Black Dyke Band, re-scheduled Mahler Symphony No. 8 at Bridgewater Hall. The postponed Brahms *Song of Destiny* may well happen in January 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 - Classical Sheffield

A collaborative music video with Classical Sheffield members is planned for early in 2021. Local conductor George Morton will produce the video, which will be released on what would have

been Classical Weekend 2021. He will also provide a work that includes a few well-known Sheffield-based songs. We are hoping to be able to contribute to this collaboration.

Classical Sheffield recently asked local music makers to share the experience of running rehearsals during the pandemic, so we put together a case study which has been shared on the Classical Sheffield website. Check it out at [Restarting Rehearsals - Member Case Studies](#). You will need to log in – user name is *member* and password is *moremusic*

The Classical Sheffield YouTube channel is open for contributions from Classical Sheffield members. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV5zfljRBJNf-AKfzw4Czrg?view_as=subscriber

Reminder - Youth charity Roundabout

A couple of months ago the choir was asked to help Roundabout, a very worthy charity that helps young people who become homeless. We didn't have time to record anything for their virtual concert, but offered to let them use tracks from our Christmas CD; Black Dyke Band were very pleased to agree. [Read more on the charity's website](#); use the YouTube link on that page to watch the concert or [watch directly here](#).

Reminder - Tenebrae concert series online

Tenebrae are launching a filmed concert series, Tenebrae Unlocked, to provide paid work for their freelance singers, whose livelihoods have been devastated this year. Four films are available to stream via <https://www.tenebrae-choir.com/films>. Single tickets are £7, or you can buy a ticket to all four concerts for £24, and each ticket entitles the viewer to 30 days' unlimited access. As a very beautiful preview, you can watch a YouTube clip of Bruckner's gorgeous *Os justi*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXYbEyyVXUk>.

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 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 *darius5*; 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**.

Contact emails

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org

Membership Officer Marianne Grayson MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org

Finance Officer Graham Dawson GrahamDawson@sheffieldphil.org

New members Officer Sally Turnbull 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. The full Privacy Policy is on the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/about-us/privacy-policy/>