

Warm-up at 7pm, then altos and tenors only, then everyone from 7.40pm

Next rehearsal Tue 09 Mar 2021; Maggie's coaching sessions; Can you help the Chorus? Steel City celebrations; Diary dates; Reminders - Maggie's Singalong Concerts, Voice Rep change, Message from Membership Officer Marianne; Tell us if contact details change; Websites and passwords; Contact emails

Weekly Update 07 February 2021 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

“Music is enough for a lifetime, but a lifetime is not enough for music.” S Rachmaninoff

Next rehearsal Tuesday 09 March 2021

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 09 March 2021. After the warm up for everyone, it's altos and tenors only until 7.40 when everyone comes together again. The altos and tenors will rehearse movements 3 and 15 of the Rachmaninov, then we will all switch to the Verdi Requiem, doing the Libera Me, for which you'll find the music at the link below. You'll see a list of movements and you can click on the PDF icon by each one to get the score.

[https://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Requiem_\(Giuseppe_Verdi\)](https://www.cpd.org/wiki/index.php/Requiem_(Giuseppe_Verdi))

A reminder that it is vocally advantageous for everyone to warm up at 7pm, so we are all ready to sing rather than being vocally cold when we all come together. Many thanks.

You can always use the Members Area of the Chorus website to find links to download music, and for rehearsal tracks and YouTube recordings, for all the works we are currently rehearsing. You can also use it to have another look at Maggie's vocal exercises that Rachel scored at the start of the lockdown last year. You will find everything at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#) and [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing Your Voice](#). Log-in details are at the end of each update.

We are using the same Zoom link each week:

<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](#).

Here are the links to the recordings of last week's rehearsal, which you can use if you were missing or want to do a bit more work or practice your Russian a bit more. Grateful thanks to Kath Eadon for editing these for us.

- [Rachmaninov Vespers Nos 2&4 T & B only 2 March 2021](#)

Thanks as always to Darius, Rachel, Maggie and Marianne for organising and delivering the online rehearsals.

Maggie's coaching sessions

If you are on the coaching list you will receive an email with instructions on how to book a time slot on our very easy-to-use system. Once you've booked, an auto email response will confirm

your time slot. On Tuesday at that time, please leave the main Zoom session, and click the separate meeting link below. You will find yourself in a waiting room. The message “*Please wait for the host to admit you*” will appear, and when Maggie is ready she will admit you to the session. At the end of your session, leave that meeting and return to the main rehearsal link. Thanks Maggie for all the help you are providing to our Chorus!

Link for Maggie’s online coaching sessions

<https://zoom.us/j/93980852238?pwd=MjE3WTUwMXZCVXZRUHZ3NjcwN0tqZz09>

Link to Maggie’s vocal exercises: [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing Your Voice](#)

Can you help the Chorus?

The Chorus really needs a Marketing and Publicity Officer, an important role which we’ve managed without through the pandemic, but which we will need once we start concerts again. The Marketing and Publicity role involves planning and scheduling an effective publicity strategy for each event, liaising with the City Hall for Sheffield International Concert Season (SICS) concerts, where we share the responsibility for publicity. For SICS concerts, publicity includes writing press releases, designing leaflets and flyers including the exit flyers that the City Hall give out after each classical concert, designing SPC pages in City Hall programmes, and organising social media campaigns. For self funded concerts there is also the programme to design, and sometimes the tickets; events other than concerts may also require some publicity.

The person in the role has previously undertaken most of the tasks as well, but there’s no reason why we couldn’t have a couple of people sharing the responsibility, or even a small group, so do have a think about whether you could contribute a bit of time to help the Chorus in this way.

We also need a Minuting Secretary to attend committee meetings (of which there are about six a year plus some occasional extra ones) and – guess what – to take the minutes. There’s also a vacancy for a soprano to represent that section on the committee.

If you have the skills and/or enthusiasm to take on one of these roles, or some part of one of them, please contact Anne Adams at administrator@sheffieldphil.org. Many thanks.

Since Anne spoke to everyone last week, someone has come forward for the Finance Officer role, which is absolutely wonderful!

Steel City Celebration

Hope you all had a listen to this super video, and spotted alto Marianne Grayson and soprano Rachel Mallaband, who both took part. With just six choral groups involved, it is really great – and important - that the Chorus was involved in this project (albeit only tow of us!) – especially given it’s use to launch and promote the Sheffield City Region Music Board’s social media presence, and hopefully on the Making Music website.

The video is on the Classical Sheffield YouTube channel, which also now features our Christmas concert, so please subscribe at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV5zfljRBJNf-AKfzw4Czrg>. There are also links on the [Classical Sheffield Facebook page](#).

Diary dates

Dates for 2020-21 yet to be confirmed

Sat 15 May 2021: Rachmaninov's *Vespers* - self funded. Unlikely to be in May; watch this space for further information.

Sat 19 June 2021: Faure *Requiem* – self funded. Sheffield City Hall have decided not to open for classical concerts until September, so the Faure concert won't go ahead in the manner originally planned. Watch this space for further information

Dates for 2021-22 and beyond, yet to be confirmed: Saturday 18 December 2021 (City Hall carol concerts with Black Dyke Band). Saturday 23 April 2022 (re-scheduled Handel *Messiah* concert with Black Dyke Band, City Hall). Sunday 19 March 2023 (re-scheduled Mahler Symphony No. 2 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 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: Maggie's Singalong Concerts January to April 2021

To keep her voice 'concert ready', Maggie is singing along to her favourite recording of the works listed below. Do feel free to do the same in your own homes. Maggie will be with you in spirit as she performs these works in full evening dress in her music room at home! All concerts start at 7.30.

- March 13th Part 1 – St. Matthew Passion - Bach
- March 20th Part 2 – St. Matthew Passion – Bach
- March 27th Parts 2 and 3 – The Messiah – Handel
- April 2nd Good Friday – St. John Passion – Bach
- April 4th Easter Sunday – The Resurrection – 2nd Symphony – Mahler

Reminder - Voice Rep change

Richard Salt has very kindly agreed to act as Voice Rep for all the basses for a while, as Bass 2 Voice rep Allan Lacey is taking a temporary Leave of Absence. Many thanks, Richard.

Reminder - Message from Membership Officer Marianne Grayson

"We need to maintain a list of chorus members willing and able to act as First Aiders in the unlikely event of an accident or sudden illness at a rehearsal or in a concert. If you are qualified, and willing to help in this way, please could you let Marianne know on MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org Many thanks, Marianne "

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

MD Darius Battiwalla dariusbattiwalla@talktalk.net

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/>