

**Covid alert – see below**

**NB Our rehearsal on Tuesday will be in King Edward's LOWER SCHOOL – see below**

Covid alert; Next rehearsal Tuesday 28th September 2021 – [see note about music](#); Tenors and altos needed for Sue Spence memorial; Librarian urgently needed; Minutes secretary; Tenors needed to sing Messiah; Sopranos and altos needed to sing Messiah; Diary dates (note two new dates); What's On; Reminder - Charity Commission AGM 30 September 2021, Making Music magazine; Tell us if contact details change; Websites and passwords; Contact emails

**Weekly Update Sunday 26 September 2021 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))**

### **Covid alert**

Just to let you know that one of the first sopranos tested positive for Covid at the weekend. She has no symptoms and is feeling well. It's more than likely that she caught it from her son, who caught it from school. He is also well. We have informed the two sopranos who were sitting close to her, both of whom have done tests, both negative. Given all this, it's unlikely that the virus was passed on at our rehearsal.

Nonetheless, we are letting you all know so that anyone who feels nervous can stay away from the next couple of rehearsals if they'd feel safer doing so. It's entirely up to each individual.

In addition, last week we were all a little bit complacent about some of the precautions outlined in our Risk Assessment, and it may be a good idea to tighten up the way we are following them, just to be on the safe side. So please can everyone have another look at the Risk Assessment and make every effort to follow the instructions. Key elements include:

- Don't attend if you have Covid-19 symptoms, test positive for Covid, or have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for Covid, or are in quarantine
- Be double vaccinated, or have achieved a negative test within 2 days of the rehearsal
- Wear a face covering before entering the building and at all times except when singing
- Please try not to forget your membership card so you can sign in. If you do forget it someone will take your name as you arrive.
- Please don't congregate anywhere, especially not chatting in groups.
- Stay socially distanced while in the queue to sign-in or collect music.
- Space yourselves out as far as the seating allows
- Ventilation is key. Check that the windows and doors near you are open as wide as they can be, and ask someone to help open them if they aren't. You might need to wear warmer clothes than you would usually.

Many thanks.

### **Next rehearsal Tuesday 28th September 2021 at King Edward's LOWER School**

Our next rehearsal will be on Tuesday 28th September at King Edwards LOWER School at 7pm. We will rehearse the Faure and the Rachmaninov. Please bring the copies you should already have as there are very few spares.

**Important note:** If anyone does not have music please contact Georgina Hulse [GeorginaHulse@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:GeorginaHulse@sheffieldphil.org) before the rehearsal, as she has to take the electric piano to rehearsal and is obviously unable to carry this as well as multiple scores.

The rehearsal will be in the Sports Hall in the Lower School, Darwin Lane, Sheffield, S10 5RG; there's a Google map [on the school's website](#). Please walk round the building to the right of the entrance and turn left around the high brick wall into to the back entrance, which takes you directly into the Sports Hall. Please leave via the same route at the end.

The Lower School is well used for sports activities which unfortunately makes parking difficult; you may need to park some distance away, so do allow extra time. For those travelling by bus the 51 service runs along Sandygate Road and it is a 15 minute walk from Crosspool Post Office along Watt Lane and down Darwin Lane to the school gate. The 120 service runs along Fulwood Road and it is a 13 minute uphill walk from Fulwood Road along Tapton Park Road and Darwin Lane to the school gate. For further information see the [Travel South Yorkshire website](#).

The rehearsal schedule was circulated last week and the week before. It will be extended as soon as we have fixed a date for the Rachmaninov concert, which will be sometime in spring – probably early March 2022.

For travel and access details for King Edwards, both Upper and Lower Schools, please see our website, at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) or [Join Us / Rehearsals](#)

### **A few more altos and tenors for the Sue Spence memorial service on 9 October 2021**

Thank you to the 32 members who have volunteered to sing at the memorial service in Firth Hall on Saturday 9 October, for tenor John's Spence's late wife Sue. We currently have 13 sopranos, 6 altos, 3 tenors and 10 basses, so could still do with a few more altos and tenors. Please tell Anne Adams if you can sing on 9 October, by sending your name and Chorus number, and whether you have a copy of the Faure, to [AnneAdams@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:AnneAdams@sheffieldphil.org)

Grateful thanks to our President Rachel Copley, who has agreed to conduct us on this occasion.

On the day the Chorus should gather at approximately 2:00 – 2:30 pm in Firth Court where the University will provide a green room with drinks and a place to leave bags etc. The presentation should start around 2.30; if anyone would like to 'sit in' on this, John says they are very welcome to do so. Please wear smart outfits, with jackets for the men - there's no need for black or sombre colours as it's a celebration of Sue's life rather than a funeral.

We will be called at an appropriate part of the presentation and will sing the *Sanctus*, *Pie Jesu* and *Agnus Dei* from the Fauré, as they were Sue's favourite pieces of music. Kathryn Lockwood, a very old friend of Sue's, will sing the *Pie Jesu*.

We will have a short run-through after the main rehearsal on Tuesday 5 October (not this coming Tuesday as we are in the Lower School). Please assemble downstairs as quickly as you can as we must vacate the premises by 9pm.

### **Chorus Librarian**

The Chorus is in desperate need of a Librarian. At the moment soprano Georgina Hulse is acquiring music on our behalf. However, Georgina is our Education and Outreach Officer, and she is busy planning further music reading sessions and preparing a music preparation booklet, and it wouldn't be fair to depend on her willingness to help out for too long.

So please, do give some thought as to whether you could help out. The role would naturally split into two, as roughly outlined below, so if you think the whole thing would be too much but you'd be willing to take on one of the sub-roles, please get in touch with Administrator Anne Adams [administrator@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:administrator@sheffieldphil.org), or any member of the committee. Georgina is happy to talk to anyone who would like to know more detail, as is Els Pearse, who stood down last year after many years of exceptional service.

*Role One: Search, hire and return music.* Search for sources of the music we need, arrange the hire of music in liaison with our Finance Officer, collect the music or arrange for it to be delivered to your home, number scores prior to distribution, take music back to the hire source or arrange for it to be delivered, arrange payment of fines for late returns via Finance Officer

*Role Two: Distribute and collect music.* Organise the distribution of music at rehearsals using a team of helpers, keep a record of who has which copy, organise return of music following concerts, check that all copies are returned, chase up any late or non-returns and arrange for the members concerned to cover the late return fines.

### **Minutes Secretary**

The Chorus also needs a Minutes Secretary, to take notes at committee meetings and the AGM. This is not an onerous task, and Administrator Anne Adams is happy to help and advise whoever takes this on. Please consider offering your services in this way.

### **Tenors wanted for Messiah Monday 6 December 2021 (Voice Exchange)**

Sheffield Bach Choir is pleased to invite **4 tenors** from the Voice Exchange to join them for their Messiah at Sheffield cathedral on Monday 6 December 2021. There is no afternoon rehearsal on the day of the performance, but there are rehearsals at Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Napier Street for the three preceding Mondays at 7.30pm. It would be useful if you could attend most of these, but it's not crucial if the work is known – remembering that every single movement will be sung! Any tenors who are keen to sing Messiah on this date, please email bass Nigel Wright at [wrightnigel@yahoo.com](mailto:wrightnigel@yahoo.com)

### **Altos and sopranos wanted for Messiah Monday 6 December 2021**

Sheffield Bach Choir is pleased to invite **3 altos and 4 sopranos** to join them for their Messiah at Sheffield cathedral on Monday 6 December 2021. There is no afternoon rehearsal on the day of the performance, but there are rehearsals at Cemetery Road Baptist Church, Napier Street for the three preceding Mondays at 7.30pm. It would be useful if you could attend most of these, but it's not crucial if the work is known – remembering that every single movement will be sung! Ladies who are keen to sing Messiah on this date, please email Administrator Anne Adams at [administrator@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:administrator@sheffieldphil.org)

### **Diary dates (*dates in italics are electives, ie, voluntary*)**

Please note that confirmed 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).

### **2021-22**

- *Saturday 9 October 2021 (Memorial service for Sue Spence, Firth Hall, likely to include excerpts from Faure's Requiem) – elective (volunteers wanted, see above)*
- An After Hours concert in the City Hall ballroom, Wed 3 November 2021 9.15 - 10pm (part of Sheffield International Concert Season - SICS). NB. Tickets for this are only available to attendees of the Halle concert, in advance, ie, none available on the night.
- ~~Sunday 28 November 2021 – charity event organised by the Lord Mayor, City Hall (elective)~~ **This has been postponed to 2022**
- *Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021 – concert for Friends of Sheffield Museums, Millennium Gallery 7pm (elective)*

- ~~Sunday 12 December 2021 (St Luke's carol service)~~ **Sadly, this has been cancelled**
- December carol singing at Sheffield Station – date to be announced - elective
- Saturday 18 December 2021 2.30pm. City Hall carol concert with Black Dyke Band and Petroc Trelawny (part of SICS). NB only one concert, in the afternoon.
- Faure *Requiem* at City Hall with Manchester Camerata, January 2022 (part of SICS)
- Rachmaninov *All Night Vigil* probably 12<sup>th</sup> March 2022, yet to be confirmed. Self-funded.
- Saturday 23 April 2022: Re-scheduled Handel *Messiah* concert with Black Dyke Band, City Hall, with German and French choirs – yet to be confirmed. Self funded.
- Walton *Belshazzar's Feast* at City Hall, June 2022 (part of SICS)

## 2022-23

- Saturday in December 2022: City Hall carol concert(s) with Black Dyke Band. SICS.
- Sunday 19 March 2023 (Mahler Symphony No. 2 City Hall with Hallam Choral Society, Hallam Sinfonia and Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor George Morton, forming the finale of Classical Sheffield's 10th anniversary Festival Weekend)
- Re-scheduled Verdi *Requiem* at City Hall, sometime in 2022-23. SICS.
- re-scheduled Mahler Symphony No. 8 at Bridgewater Hall possibly May/June 2023

## Under discussion

- Rutter *Gloria* - Black Dyke Band keen to do this with us sometime

## What's On

- Monday 27th September 10am / 11.30am Whirlow Spirituality Centre. Simply Strings
- Friday 1 October 7.30pm Firth Hall. Elizabeth Llewellyn
- Saturday 2 October 7.30pm Victoria Hall. Hallam Sinfonia
- Saturday 2 October, 12 noon, Upper Chapel. William Burn and Phillip Collin
- Sunday 3 October, 2pm, Sharrow Performing Arts Space. First Position Strings: Ensemble-playing Workshop
- Monday 4th October 10am, Whirlow Spirituality Centre. Nicola Farnon with Concerteenies
- Thursday 7 October, 8pm, St John's Church, Ranmoor. Paul Hale (organ)
- Friday 15 October, 7pm, Sheffield City Hall, The Hallé
- Friday 15 October, 7pm, Sheffield Cathedral, Brigantes Orchestra
- Saturday 16 October, 4pm, All Saints Church Darton. Elizabeth Charlesworth

Info and tickets: Classical Sheffield's What's On page <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/events>

## Reminder - Charity Commission Annual Public Meeting 30 September 2021

You are invited to join the Charity Commission's Annual Public Meeting on Thursday 30 September 2021 at 2pm. This year's meeting is a virtual event open to all members of the public and charity representatives, and broadcast live online. If you wish to join the event, please sign up below and you will be sent a link for the live broadcast closer to the date.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/charity-commission-annual-public-meeting-tickets-166774339539>

## Reminder - Making Music magazine

The Chorus belongs to 'Making Music' the national federation of music societies, which distributes a glossy, quarterly magazine, High Notes. This is usually available on the notice board table to browse through, but of course we can't use that at the moment. So if anyone wants to see the magazine please speak to our Making Music rep, tenor Jim Monach.

## 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**.

## Contact emails

**MD Darius Battiwalla** [dariusbattiwalla@talktalk.net](mailto:dariusbattiwalla@talktalk.net)

**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/>