

Covid alert – see below

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Weekly Update Sunday 24 October 2021 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal Tuesday 26th October 2021 at King Edward's Upper School

Our next rehearsal will be on Tuesday 26th October, at King Edwards Upper School at 7pm. Please enter via the gates from Glossop Road. You can leave via either gate, but note that they open inwards! For travel and access details for King Edwards, both Upper and Lower Schools, please see [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) or [Join Us / Rehearsals](#)

Tuesday evening is the penultimate rehearsal of the After Hours music (brown envelopes), and next Tuesday 2 November is the final rehearsal before the concert the following day.

The rehearsal schedule is available at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) – user name and password are at the bottom of every update.

Do join us after rehearsal at the Francis Newton – everyone welcome, especially new folk. Take your car with you though - the gates are locked after we leave the premises!

After Hours concert on Wednesday 3 November 2021

The After Hours concert is next Wednesday 3 November, at 9.15pm in the City Hall ballroom. Information about pre-concert rehearsal, dressing rooms, concert dress etc will be in next week's update, and on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Concert Arrangements](#).

The concert is advertised on our [Facebook After Hours page](#) Please can those who use Facebook like this and, even better, share it among friends and family? Please could members also email friends and family with a [link to our Classical Sheffield page](#), from which they can buy tickets online.

Please remember that tickets are free, but will NOT be available on the night, and must be booked at the same time as the Halle concert in the main hall.

Covid alert

A visiting 2nd alto has tested positive for Covid. She has no symptoms and is well. She was at rehearsal last Tuesday, sitting near the front on an edge. She didn't share music. 2nd altos sitting near the front should take a lateral flow test, just to be on the safe side.

In light of the rising number of cases in Sheffield, please can Chorus members wear face coverings until we start to sing? And please can everyone spread out as much as possible within the available seating? Ladies especially seem reluctant to use the space that's now been made available to us – please spread out right to the edges ladies! If you get upstairs before Anne has had a chance to undo the tapes, please just unfasten them at one end and roll them up at the still-fastened end. Many thanks.

Voice Rep needed – alto 1

Rachel Rowlands is stepping down from her role a Voice Rep for the first altos, and so we need someone to take over. Rachel is happy to discuss the role with any first alto who is interested.

NB - this is NOT a committee role, so there's no need to attend any meetings. Rachel has been a superb Voice Rep and I'm sure the first altos will miss her supportive, encouraging interventions. Grateful thanks Rachel!

Rehearsals and Concerts Officer needed!

We need a Rehearsals and Concerts Officer, which involves completing a Risk Assessment (RA) and a seating plan for each concert, and organising the way we get on and off stage in venues other than the main hall at the City Hall. The RA isn't difficult as there's a template and very little changes from one concert to the next.

AGM on Tuesday 16 November 2021

Members have all been sent a note about our AGM, which will be held after rehearsal on Tuesday 16 November. Those members who have generously offered to take up the various vacancies, need to complete and submit a nomination form, which was sent with the AGM notice. This includes current members of the committee!

Reminder – Rachmaninov and Faure scores

A reminder that members need to buy their own Rachmaninov and print out their own Faure. The Faure score is here: https://www.cpdl.org/wiki/images/3/37/Faure_Requiem_VS_PML.pdf. Please contact Paul Henstridge (email at end of every update) if you don't have a printer.

The version of the Rachmaninov we will use is ALL NIGHT VIGIL Opus 37 by Musica Russica, ISBN 0-9629460-6-0 (it has a pink cover). It costs £29.95 from [Ackerman Music](#), £31.50 from [Music Room](#) or [Presto Music](#), or you might be able to get a good second-hand copy from eBay or Amazon (use the [SPC Amazon Smile page](#) link to make a bit of money for the Chorus).

If anyone who borrowed a Rachmaninov score now finds they could afford to buy one, we'd be most grateful to receive them back to pass on to new members. Please return to Anne Adams at rehearsal. Many thanks for your help with this.

Reminder - no need for rehearsal apologies

Just to remind everyone that well over a year ago we removed the need to send an email with apologies if you can't make a rehearsal, and announced this via the update. Failure to sign in will be taken as an apology, so please don't email if you can't make a rehearsal. You still need to send apologies to Marianne Grayson (Membership Officer) if you can't sing in a concert or attend a mandatory piano or conductor's rehearsal, or an arranged audition.

Reminder - Revised procedures for auditions

The audition procedures have been amended to take into account more up-to-date thinking in choirs across the country, and following experience gained during the pandemic. The revised procedures are listed on the website at [Join Us / Auditions](#) and at [Members Area / Re-auditions](#). In essence, the changes are:

- For initial auditions, new applicants will be asked to sing a piece of their own choice up to about 3 minutes long, accompanied or unaccompanied.
- Maggie will then take the person through some exercises including a few scales to determine range.
- There is no longer a sight-reading test, though some music-reading ability is expected. Instead, Darius will chat to the person about music-reading in the context of their previous musical experiences.
- There will be some simple aural tests to see how they pick things up by ear.

- Re-auditions will involve scales to see if your vocal range has changed, and something we are currently rehearsing or have recently performed – but nothing you haven't rehearsed.

The Chorus Rules have been amended to formally reflect these changes; see [Members Area / Chorus Rules](#)

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

- 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.
- *Wednesday 1st December 2021 – concert for Friends of Sheffield Museums, Millennium Gallery 7pm (elective)*
- *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 12th March 2022 at St Mark's Church Broomhill, 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

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

For up-coming Come and Sing opportunities in our region, see [Members Area / For information / Singing Opportunities](#)

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 or read it on the website at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#). The user name is the word *member* and the password is *dariu5*; please don't share these.

The Members Area lists 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.

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/>