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Weekly Update Sunday 28 November 2021 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Covid alert

Darius has recently received information that has led us to re-examine our Covid-19 precautions and the way we are following them. Darius will share this information with everyone on Tuesday. It is really important that we protect one another, and our ability to sing together, by continuing to take precautions to prevent the spread of the virus. One of the most important measures is for people who may be infected to stay away from rehearsal. So, from Tuesday, as well as all the open doors and windows, the following will apply:

- Anyone with a cough or cold, or who feels unwell, or has been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid, **MUST** stay away from rehearsals.
- Anyone who tests positive for Covid **MUST** email Membership Officer Marianne Grayson as soon as possible, telling her where they were sitting at the previous rehearsal
- Members should have had two vaccinations and have taken a negative lateral flow or PCR test within two days of the rehearsal (taken on trust)
- Members should spread out through the whole of the available rehearsal space
- Members should not share music, pencils or drinks
- Members should keep masks on at all times except when singing (and throughout the rehearsal if you prefer), unless exempt.

We are planning to use the organ seating as well as the choir risers at the City Hall so that we will be as spread out as much as possible during the Christmas concert. We are also likely to ask everyone to arrive already in concert dress, as the available dressing rooms are too small to enable the required social distancing. We are planning to be well spread out at the three elective events.

Next rehearsal Tuesday 30 November 2021 at King Edward's Upper School (attachment)

Our next rehearsal will be on Tue 30 Nov, at King Edwards Upper School at 7pm. Please remember that Darius would prefer members to attend **every** rehearsal, even if they are not singing in a particular concert, so that the whole chorus benefits from the training received each week.

We'll be rehearsing the Christmas music, which was distributed last week. If you were away, please collect a pack; the hire charge is £4 and correct change would be appreciated. You will also need your 100 Carols for Choirs and a print-out of the Darius Battiwalla arrangement of *Resonet in laudibus*, which is attached, or which you can download from the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

Darius has updated the rehearsal schedule to the end of the season. You can view and download it from <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>; the link is also on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#).

Drivers please enter via the gates from Glossop Road only, as the vehicle gates from Newbould Lane will be locked. Cars may leave via either gate, but note that they open inwards! Those on foot or bicycle should use the pedestrian gates, which will open on pushing. These are to the

right of the vehicle gates (Glossop Road) or to the left (Newbould Lane). Many thanks for your usual cheerful co-operation!

For travel and access details see [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) or [Join Us / Rehearsals](#) - user name and password are at the bottom of every update.

A reminder that the rehearsal on Tue 07 December will be at KES Lower School.

Please sign up for Christmas elective events

Thank you to those who have signed up for this year's Christmas elective events. Please see Anne Adams on Tuesday to sign up if you haven't already. We will put suitable Covid precautions in place, so please volunteer – all three events are great fun!

- Wed 1st Dec 2021 – concert for Friends of Sheffield Museums, Millennium Gallery. Full concert dress plus black folders. Meet in the gallery's activity room at 5.45 for brief rehearsal at 6pm. Performance at 7pm for 20 minutes. Refreshments provided (mince pies, wine and juice usually). You'll need Carols for Choirs; other music will be distributed on the night.
- Sat 11th Dec 2021 - Classical Sheffield carol singing slot in the afternoon – probably 2pm to be confirmed, 20 minute slot in Sheffield Central Library foyer (part of their Christmas craft fair), then 20 minutes at Moor Market (warm clothes needed for this). Christmas jumpers, hats, etc. Carols for Choirs plus music distributed on the day (local carols etc).
- Mon 20th December 2021: carol singing at Sheffield Station. Warm clothing - Christmas jumpers, hats etc. Carols for Choirs plus music distributed on the day (local carols etc).

Subscription fees now due

Thank you to those who have already paid their annual subscription fee of £144 (reduced rate £39). Fees are due from everyone please, as soon as you can.

Everyone needs to complete the Subscription Form, which has been placed online for the first time, at <https://forms.office.com/r/K3C5YRe1DR>. Please use the online form if you can; it captures your entries onto a spreadsheet which makes the record-keeping and accounting much easier for our new Finance Officer Jane Parkin. We have tested the form and you should find it easy to complete, but if you do struggle please see our new Jane at rehearsal; outgoing officer Graham Dawson will be there to help too. The bank details etc are at the bottom of the 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.

As outlined by Graham at the AGM, there are still ongoing issues with setting up our new bank account, so fees paid by cheque or bank transfer will be payable to the HSBC account. Bank details are at the bottom of the online form. Both the HSBC and Coop bank accounts will have the same account name so cheques made out to Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus will fine (don't forget to put your Chorus number on the back of the cheque).

Those paying by Standing Order have some decisions to make. Those who have a continuing monthly Standing Order (i.e. pay 12 times per year) could just amend the monthly amount to the HSBC account for now. However, at some stage they will have to cancel it and set up a new Standing Order to pay to the new Coop bank account. Alternatively those paying by Standing Order could opt to wait a few weeks until the Coop Bank account becomes available, to save themselves having to cancel one Standing Order in order to set up another.

If anyone has difficulty paying for any reason, then please contact Jane; her phone number and email address are at the bottom of the subscription form; her email is at the bottom of every weekly update.

Membership cards will be given to members who have completed forms and paid or arranged Standing Order payments. They will need to be printed first, so please bear with us as it's not the easiest of operations. Your old card will still work for signing-in purposes.

Volunteers needed to host our French and German visitors in April 2022

We are planning the visit of the French and German choirs to sing Messiah with us on Sat 23rd April 2022. Would you be able to offer to host one or more of our visitors? You don't need to have a smart home, just a spare room and the willingness to look after our guests and help them get to rehearsals, the concert and the party, and their rendezvous points for trips. This may mean ferrying them if you can, or pointing them in the direction of public transport if not. The approximate dates, to be confirmed, are:

- French choir arrives Wed 20th/Thurs 21st April, departs Tues 26th April (with independent concerts in Buxton (Sunday 24th) and Malton (Monday 25th))
- German choir arrives Wed 20th departs Sun 24th

If you can offer to be a host, please could you respond using the form at this link? Many thanks <https://forms.office.com/r/UGNXKYZF3T>

Voice Exchange Mozart *Requiem*

Sheffield Oratorio Chorus invites Tenors and Basses to join them in their performance of Mozart's *Requiem* on Saturday 2 April 2022 at Ecclesall Parish Church. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings 7.30 to 9.30pm at St Andrew's Church Psalter Lane S11 8YL, throughout January, February and March. If interested, please contact Nigel Wright for further details: wrightnigel@yahoo.com or phone 233 0525 or in person on Tuesday evening. Please note that Altos and Sops are also invited to join, but will need to pay a fee of £25. Contact Nigel.

Christmas shopping with #easyfundraising

If you're doing any Christmas shopping online, make sure you use *#easyfundraising*. Over 6,000 shops and sites will donate, so you can raise a FREE donation for Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus every time you shop online. These donations really mount up, [so please sign up to support us](#).

Faure *Requiem* rehearsal notes

Our Chair Paul Henstridge has put together a set of rehearsal notes for the Faure, from all the information provided by Darius at rehearsals. These are on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#); please use them to annotate your copies.

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

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

- *Wed 1st Dec 2021 – Friends of Sheffield Museums, Millennium Gallery 7pm (elective)*
- *Sat 11 Dec 2021 - Classical Sheffield event, 2pm or thereabouts Central Library then Moor Market (elective)*

- Saturday 18 December 2021 2.30pm: City Hall carol concert with Black Dyke Band and Petroc Trelawny (part of SICS). Compulsory rehearsals Tue 14 Dec at KES, and Sat 18 Dec at 12 noon until 1.30pm at the City Hall. Full concert dress as usual, but men can wear fancy bow ties and ladies can wear Christmas jewelry.
- *Mon 20 Dec 4.15 to 6pm carols at Sheffield Station (elective)*
- Saturday 15 January 2022 7pm: Faure *Requiem* City Hall Manchester Camerata (part of SICS). Compulsory rehearsals Tue 11 Jan at KES, and Sat 15 Jan 2.30 to 5.30pm at the City Hall.
- Saturday 12 March 2022: Rachmaninov *All Night Vigil* St Mark's Church Broomhill. Self-funded. Compulsory rehearsals Tue 08 Mar and Sat 12 Mar 2.30 to 5.30pm at St Mark's
- Saturday 23 April 2022: Re-scheduled Handel *Messiah* concert with Black Dyke Band, City Hall, with German and French choirs. Compulsory rehearsals Thu 21 Apr 2022 at KES and Sat 23 Apr 2.30 to 5.30pm at City Hall Self funded.
- Saturday 11 June 2022: Walton *Belshazzar's Feast* at City Hall (part of SICS). Compulsory rehearsals Tue 07 Jun at KES and Sat 11 June 2.30 to 5.30 at City Hall

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 *darius5*; 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 or AnneAdams@sheffieldphil.org

Membership Officer Marianne Grayson MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org

Finance Officer Jane Parkin JaneParkin@sheffieldphil.org or accounts@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/>