

NB. Tuesday's rehearsal is at King Edward's LOWER School; directions below

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Weekly Update Saturday 04 December 2021 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

I've been asked to list the contents, as above, so I'll try it this way for a while, hoping mobile readers don't have to scroll down *too* far! The contents are designed to alert you to the key items via a quick glance, with important and/or new items at the top. I'm sure you will let me know if you don't like it! Cheers Anne

Next rehearsal Tuesday 07 December 2021 at King Edward's Upper School (attachment)

Our next rehearsal will be on Tue 07 December 2021, at King Edwards LOWER School at 7pm. 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](#).

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, for which the hire charge is £4; correct change would be appreciated. You will also need your 100 Carols for Choirs and a print-out of *Resonet in laudibus*, which you can download from the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#). There's a good copy of the Longford '*Deck the Halls*' on the website as well, for those who received a small-print version.

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](#).

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

Arrangements for Christmas concert on Saturday 18th December 2021

Arrangements are now on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#) and will be included in the update on Sunday 12 December. Key points to note are that the rehearsal at KES on Tue 14 Dec is compulsory, as is the pre-concert conductor's rehearsal from 12 noon to 1.30pm in the City Hall on Sat 18th Dec. We will be in full concert dress; please [check the dress code](#), especially if you're new. However, gentlemen may wear a snazzy or Christmassy bow tie, and ladies may add Christmas jewelry, eg flashing ear-rings. We may need everyone to come in concert dress to avoid overcrowding in the very limited dressing room space. Unfortunately, Covid restrictions mean we can't have the usual sherry and mince pies during the interval.

Volunteer needed to sell CDs on Sat 18th Dec

We'll be selling our Christmas CD 'Awake Arise' before and after the Christmas concert, and need a volunteer to staff the stall in the City Hall foyer. This would suit someone who isn't singing in the concert, or perhaps an adult family member of someone who is singing. A free ticket will be provided so the volunteer can watch the concert from the back of the stalls.

Millennium Gallery – thank you (water bottle left behind)

Grateful thanks to everyone who sang last Wednesday, and to soprano Georgina Hulse for excellent conducting. Everyone enjoyed it very much, and we were sent the email below. If the water bottle is yours, they are saving it for you.

'Thank you so much for the amazing performance last night. It really helped us celebrate and make the event feel Christmassy. I had so many people say how wonderful it was to hear you. Please pass on my thanks to the members of the Chorus. We found a water bottle that had been left behind. At the moment this has been put in the office at Millennium Gallery if someone would like to collect it.... Thanks again and hope you have a great Christmas. Best wishes, Janet Jennings, Visual Arts Coordinator, Sheffield Museums Trust'

Classical Sheffield elective event on Sat 11th Dec (attachment)

The Classical Sheffield event is on Sat 11th Dec 2021 at 2pm for 20 minutes, in Sheffield Central Library foyer (part of their Christmas craft fair). Meet 1.50pm. We're singing in the foyer and maybe up the stairs – whatever is needed to space us out. We're just singing in the library, not at Moor Market as well. Wear Christmas jumpers, hats, etc. You need white or green Carols for Choirs plus music distributed on the day. Running order and further details attached.

The remaining event is on Mon 20th December 2021, singing carols at Sheffield Station in aid of Heart Research. Starts at 4.15pm and we do two 50 minute stints. Come and go when you can. Wear warm clothing as we may have to sing outside as there are loads of volunteers (which is great) and we can't spread out properly in the foyer. Wear Christmas jumpers, red hats and scarves etc. You'll need Carols for Choirs plus music distributed on the day (local carols etc).

Christmas CDs for sale

Anne Adams will bring copies of our Christmas CD to rehearsal, to sell at the much-reduced price of £5 to anyone who wants a copy. Correct change would be much appreciated!

Anne recently sold a copy of the CD to a gentleman in Surrey who heard our version of 'O Holy Night' last year and responded to the recent Black Friday / Cyber Monday sale advertised on our website. He sent Anne a very appreciative email, which you can read here:

'I waited until the start of Advent before I listened to the CD. It really is a fabulous disc. I wanted it for O Holy Night but the rest of the disc is wonderful as well. The last verse of O Holy Night is out of this world, with the different tones of the brass and then the organ entering in such a dramatic way. It will really make our Christmas..... My thanks to your Chorus for producing such a wonderful disc and I wish you a very happy Christmas and good health in 2022. Best Wishes, Peter Dutton'

Sad news

Sadly, former first alto Betty Beeson has recently died at the age of 87. Betty was a member for many years, retiring due to ill health at about the time we stopped rehearsing at the Arts Tower. The funeral will be at St John's Church, Mexborough, at 13:10 on Thursday 9th December, with the committal at Doncaster Cemetery, Rose Hill, at 14.10. The family have said that members of the Chorus who knew Betty are welcome to attend. Betty particularly asked that no flowers be purchased, preferring donations to be sent to the British Heart Foundation instead.

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

- *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

Reminder – please pay your subs

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 automates the record-keeping and it's easy to complete. The bank details etc are at the bottom of the form.

Please complete the form using your 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.

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 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, once this is up and running. 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 Finance Officer Jane Parkin; 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.

Reminder - Volunteers still 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>

Reminder - 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.

Reminder - 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](#)

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

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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/>

