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Weekly Update Sunday 30 January 2022 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal Tuesday 01 February 2022 at King Edward's Upper School

Our next rehearsal will be on Tue 01 February 2022, at King Edwards Upper School at 7pm. We will be rehearsing the Rachmaninov, and will be doing this for the next six weeks, with some Messiah as well in later weeks – check the rehearsal schedule for details (see below).

Please be as helpful as you usually are in showing new members the way, inviting them to sit by you, acting as a buddy etc. Many thanks.

Despite recent changes we will continue to take precautions to avoid spreading the Omicron variant – see the 'Covid precautions' list below. **The most important measure is to stay away if you have any Covid, flu or cold-like symptoms or if you live with someone who has Covid.** Do also feel free to stay away if you still feel nervous about attending.

Drivers please enter via the Glossop Road gates; centre your vehicle to ensure they open. Cars may leave via either gate. Those on foot or bike should use the pedestrian gates next to the vehicle gates on either Glossop Road or Newbould Lane. These are permanently unlocked but need a good strong push. Many thanks for your usual cheerful co-operation!

The up-to-date rehearsal schedule is at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>; this link is also on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) along with travel and access details, and links to useful learning and rehearsal resources - user name and password are at the bottom of every update.

Covid precautions

- Do not attend if you have symptoms of Covid, flu or a cold, or have been exposed to a person infected with Covid
- Do not attend unless you have had two vaccinations AND a recent negative lateral flow or PCR test
- Please wear face coverings at all times in the building, until just before we sing (unless you're exempt of course)
- Stay distanced as much as you can, in corridors and in the foyer, and when singing
- Please check that nearby windows and doors are open, and if not, open them as wide as possible (and closing them at the end would be a great help, thank you)

- Bring your own drinks and don't share them
- Please let us know if you test positive for Covid after the rehearsal; we will continue to alert anyone seated close by

If you develop symptoms, you must get a PCR test as soon as you can, and isolate if that is also positive. You must also isolate if you don't have symptoms but get a positive lateral flow test result. You can stop isolating when you get two negative lateral flow tests taken on the 5th and 6th day after isolating. The people you live with should take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days, but don't need to isolate unless their test results are positive or they develop symptoms.

If you have been close to someone who has tested positive, take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days. However there's no need to self isolate unless your test results are positive or you develop symptoms.

For more detail about this, see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

Rehearsal resources for Rachmaninov

The Chorus website has rehearsal resources for the Rachmaninov, Messiah and the Walton, along with advice about preparing at home and looking after your voice; see [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#). The Rachmaninov resources are also listed below.

Rehearsal tracks and recordings:

- [1965 recording, USSR State Choir conducted by Sveshnikov](#)
- [Live performance of Rachmaninov on YouTube](#)
- [Gorgeous version by a Polish ensemble](#) (very clear)
- [Recording of Vespers from USSR](#)
- [Cyberbass tracks – Rachmaninov Vespers](#) by separate voice part; free
- [Choral line tracks – Rachmaninov Vespers](#) by separate voice part - charged
- [Free downloadable midifiles for Rachmaninov Vespers](#) by separate voice part

Russian pronunciation - doesn't cover every movement but may be helpful:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m_65C_Xx3gE
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MI1nMduOTeE>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-fBo0rGYk_4

Membership cards ready

Those members who have paid and have been waiting for a membership card may collect them from Finance Officer Jane Perkin on Tuesday.

Co-op bank account finally open – please amend SOs - or pay if you haven't yet!

After a long and protracted wait, our bank account with the Co-operative Bank has finally come through. Many thanks to Graham for pursuing this so doggedly on our behalf – Graham you're a star! Those members who pay by standing order (SO) should now please cancel the SO to the HSBC account and set a new SO up so that the payments go into the new account. The bank details are:

- The Co-operative Bank

- Sort code: 08-92-99
- Account: 67238734
- Account name: THE SHEFFIELD PHILHARMONIC CHORUS

Most members have now paid their subs – thank you. Please can those who haven't, pay the £144 (reduced rate £39) as soon as you can? Our rules state that subs should be paid within three months of the AGM at the latest – that's by mid February folks! Please complete the Subs Form at <https://forms.office.com/r/K3C5YRe1DR> - PLEASE USE THE NEW BANK DETAILS LISTED ABOVE. Fees can be paid by cheque (Chorus number on the back please) or bank transfer to the new account (details above). Please use 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.

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.

Rachmaninov *All Night Vigil* tickets now available

Tickets for our Rachmaninov concert are now available online with WeGotTickets, at <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/537298>. There's a button to this online ticket store on our website at [Concerts / Current Season](#). Please share the information eg via email to friends and family - we can't rely on the City Hall's publicity list for this – people will only come if they hear about it! Here's a link to our [Facebook event page](#) for those who use Facebook – please like and share widely! There will be an Instagram post soon, and there's a pinned tweet (see @SheffPhilChorus) and further tweets virtually every day – please follow us and retweet when you see them!

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

- Saturday 12 March 2022: Rachmaninov *All Night Vigil* St Mark's Church Broomhill. Self-funded. Compulsory rehearsals Tue 08 Mar 7pm at KES 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. Self funded. Compulsory rehearsals Thu 21 Apr 2022 7pm at KES and Sat 23 Apr 2.30 to 5.30pm at City Hall.
- Saturday 11 June 2022: Walton *Belshazzar's Feast* at City Hall (part of SICS). Compulsory rehearsals Tue 07 Jun 7pm 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 - sopranos, tenors and basses needed to sing Bach's *St Matthew Passion*

Sheffield Bach Choir still needs a few sopranos, tenors and basses to sing Bach's *St Matthew Passion* (in English) on Saturday 5 March at 6.30pm in Sheffield Cathedral. Rehearsals and performance will be conducted by Professor George Nicholson, and will use the Elgar/Atkins Novello edition; copies available for loan if needed. Rehearsals have started, at Cemetery Road Baptist Church on Mondays 7.30 - 9.00pm; parking is available in Waitrose car park. The choir would like guests to attend as many rehearsals as possible, including the one on the afternoon of the performance. Just turn up if you'd like to sing, but gents contact Nigel Wright at wrightnigel@yahoo.com, and ladies contact Anne Adams AnneAdams@sheffieldphil.org

Reminder - Choral Bangers concert Saturday 5 February (attachment)

A number of our members are involved in Philip Collin's 'Choral Bangers' concert in St John's Church Ranmoor on Saturday 5 February 2022 at 7.30pm.

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

Librarians Alan and Rosemary Anderson alananderson@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/>