

Extra rehearsal at KES Saturday 23 March! Please return CS music if you haven't already. Review of Classical Sheffield concert. Darius giving organ recital in Sheffield on Saturday. See below.

Weekly update for Monday 18 March 2019

Apologies for not sending yesterday – my husband had a minor accident – he's fine - so we spent the day in A&E.

Rehearsal reminders

On Tuesday 19 March 2019 the rehearsal will be at our usual venue. We will rehearse the B minor Mass until 9.15pm. Please leave promptly as there is an audition and we have to have cleared the building by 9.30pm.

Please don't forget your membership card for swiping in. No need to send apologies under the new system, but if you do have anything to report please contact your Voice Rep.

[Please click here to go directly to the rehearsal schedule](#), there's also a link on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#).

Darius encourages everyone to attend all rehearsals, but asks anyone who isn't able to sing in a concert to let him know via their Voice Rep (for contact details see the Chorus website at [Member's Area / Chorus Contacts](#); there's a password reminder at the end of each weekly update). Remember however that those not singing in any particular concert shouldn't attend the final rehearsal before the concert, so that Darius can hear how it will sound on the day.

Extra rehearsal on Saturday 23 March 2019

Darius has called an extra rehearsal on Saturday 23 March 2019 from 10.30 to 13.00, at KES Upper School (usual venue). Here is his message:

'Dear chorus members, It's really important that we give the best possible performance of the Bach, as our future concerts at the City Hall depend on the quality of our performances in the SIV concert season. So we've decided that an extra rehearsal would be helpful - this will be on Saturday March 23, 1030-1300 at our usual venue. It would be great if as many of you as possible were there, but as it's short notice we know this won't be possible for everyone. Therefore it won't count as part of the MAR- ie nobody will be penalised for not attending. However, if you are already 'borderline' - hovering about 70% - the extra rehearsal can be used to make up the deficit. Many thanks for all your hard work - see you on Tuesday! Darius'

Please note that since this extra rehearsal doesn't count towards the MAR. However, it may help you if your attendance is around the borderline mark of 70%, so please make sure you report to your Voice Rep on arrival, or sign in if we have the registration set up.

Given that Darius feels we are in need of this extra rehearsal, please work at home using the links provided in the Members Area of the chorus website: [Members Area / Preparing the Music](#) .

Please return your Classical Sheffield music!

Thanks to everyone for returning the Classical Sheffield music. If you haven't yet, please do so as a matter of urgency; we may incur heavy fines for late return of the Schoenberg in particular so please send your music via a friend if you are absent. Alternatively please contact EIs at librarian@sheffieldphil.org to arrange drop-off at her home in S10.

Practising at home

Links to Paul Henstridge's rehearsal notes, You Tube recordings of the Mass in B minor, and rehearsal recordings including the Choralia website are provided on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Preparing the music](#). Log-in details are at the end of every weekly update. However, here is a direct link to the Choralia files for those who struggle with the website: [B minor Mass mp3 files in Choralia](#)

Darius in concert at St Marie's, Sheffield on Saturday 23 March 2019

Darius is giving a recital on the magnificent and newly-restored Lewis organ in St Marie's cathedral on Saturday 23 March 2019 as part of the Lewis Organ Concert Series. The programme includes works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Brahms, Liszt, Vidor, Gigout, Vierne and Schmidt. Tickets cost £8 on the door – well worth it! A flyer is attached to this email; do share if you can.

Review of the Classical Sheffield concert

Philip Andrews has written a review of our concert in the Sheffield Telegraph. It's part of a bigger review that includes the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic concert at the City Hall. Our bit is copied below and here's a link to the full review: [sheffield telegraph review](#)

'It was female composers who took centre stage in an eclectic programme of songs from across Europe from our own Philharmonic Chorus on Sunday. Under conductor Darius Battiwalla they gave sensitive and carefully-balanced accounts of a range of rarely heard pieces, including two by women - Fanny Mendelssohn and Clara Schumann - whose achievements are normally overshadowed by those of their male relatives. They were joined by soprano Caroline Taylor, who gave impressively clear but delicate interpretations of a trio of reflective songs by the French Boulanger sisters, Lili and Nadia. And it was Lili who was responsible for the most heart-warming contribution to a cold winter Sunday night, her lively Hymne au Soleil.' Philip Andrews

Weekly updates

Some members are still not receiving the weekly update; please ask colleagues who report this to tell bass Matthew Morgan, who is working through the issues as best he can.

However, if ever you don't receive the weekly update, please go to the Members Area of the Chorus website; Anne spends time every week keeping this up to date, with rehearsal details in [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) and concert arrangements in [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#). The Classical Sheffield concert arrangements were there a couple of weeks before the concert for example, and the arrangements we know so far for the Bach concert are already there (they have been included further down this update for quite some weeks). The weekly updates themselves are uploaded onto the website every week in [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#), and the dates for the following season are there as well in [Members Area / Diary Dates](#). Log-in details are at the end of every weekly update (see below), but urgent messages are always listed above the log-in box so members can read the important part without logging in.

Reminder - help to promote your Chorus (see attachment)

We are considering ordering mugs as shown in the attachment – a plain white 'chunky' mug, with our new logo, and a 'singing' quotation. Price will be around £9 each. Interested? If so please sign up for your mug on Tues 12th or 19th March, or email Rachel.Mallaband@sheffieldphil.org with your name, chorus number, quantity and quotation required (see attachment for quotation choices).

Subscriptions and membership cards

Please can those who pay monthly check that they've set up a new payment schedule. A number of members set an end date for last year's payments and have forgotten to set up a new schedule. Also, a small number of people have yet to pay – please see Graham as a matter of urgency or you won't be able to sing in the Bach concert!

Reminder - bring your own mug or cup if you can

The average lifespan of a single-use cup is 13 minutes, and due to the plastic content less than 1% get recycled. A number of people already bring their own cup; do bring yours if you can. Email Rachel Rowlands if you'd like a special bamboo cup with lid, 12 oz £7.99, 14 oz £8.99. rachelrow@yahoo.co.uk. Many thanks

Advance notice - Saturday 6 April 2019 - Bach's Mass in B minor (615 tickets sold)

The concert is in the City Hall from 19.00 to 21.00. It's one of our Sheffield International Concert Season concerts, with the Royal Northern Sinfonia conducted by Andrew Griffiths.

The compulsory 'on-the-day' rehearsal will be from 14.30 to 17.30 in the City Hall; please make sure you are in your seats ready to start at 14.30 on the dot.

Conductor Andrew Griffith is very keen to rehearse this with us thoroughly, so he is coming up by train and staying the night for both piano rehearsals. The first is on Tuesday 26 March 2019, the second on Tuesday 2 April 2019, both at KES. Anyone who has to miss one of these will need good overall attendance and permission to sing in the concert. If you miss both piano rehearsals you won't be able to sing.

Tickets are [available via the City Hall website](#) or from the Box Office.

Ticket sales so far = 615, usual on-the-day sales around 300, target 1300, capacity 2000.

Advance notice - Sun 9 Jun 2019 – The Holy Face – a self funded concert we need to promote ourselves!

Venue is the City Hall at 3 o'clock in the afternoon. With the Black Dyke Band, Halifax Choral Society, the Yorkshire Youth Choir and four soloists, we will sing Wilby's *The Holy Face* and Paul Mealor's *Paradise*, and Darius will play Wilby's organ concerto *Cinema*.

The on-the-day rehearsal will be from 11.00 to 14.00 in the City Hall; please be in your seats ready to start rehearsal at 11.00 on the dot.

Tickets [available via SIV website](#) or at the City Hall Box Office. £5 reduction for anyone who presents their Xmas concert or Bach ticket or proof of booking and under 18 tickets FREE! Schools will be offered a significant reduction via an email voucher.

Rehearsal attendance new procedure – see chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#)

Upcoming classical concerts are on the Chorus website, [Members Area / For information](#)

Upcoming Singing Opportunities at [Members' Area / For information / Singing Opportunities](#)

Diary Dates See the Chorus website at [Members Area / Diary dates](#).

Chorus website

Information about concert arrangements, future dates, our official stage procedure, Darius' rehearsal schedule, re-auditions, where to get rehearsal tracks etc. can be found on the chorus website, in the Member's Area in particular. 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. The chorus user name is member and the password is dariu5; these are for chorus members only so please don't share them.

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org