

Here Darius play for Yorkshire Day Saturday 1st August – see below

Read on for: On-line rehearsals and recordings; Darius gives free recital for Yorkshire day; Letter from our Chair; Sheffield Cathedral Choir; Musical resources; Diary dates, Reminders – on-line vocal exercises, buy Vespers score, SPC Facebook pages, support; Take care; Tell us if contact details change; Websites and passwords; Contact emails

Update Friday 31 July 2020 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

On-line rehearsals

Many thanks everyone, for attending the on-line rehearsal on Tuesday. It went very well and was once again enjoyed by all. Grateful thanks again to Marianne for hosting, to Darius for leading, and to Rachel and Maggie for their contributions.

A reminder that you can watch and listen via links on the Member's Area of the Chorus website at [Members Area/Rehearsals/Preparing the Music](#). Last week's rehearsal will be uploaded in a few days time. Please don't share the recordings via any kind of public forum - eg Twitter, Facebook, Instagram etc. There are no copyright issues if the Chorus uses the recordings but if shared more widely we will have to pay fees (and might get into some trouble).

Darius giving free Yorkshire Day organ concert tomorrow - Saturday 1 August 2020

In celebration of Yorkshire Day 2020, East Leeds FM radio / Chapel FM Arts Centre will be broadcasting live from Leeds Town Hall on Saturday 1 August from 12 noon. The programme will feature interviews and history of the Town Hall and organ from midday, with a special concert by Darius Battiwalla at 1pm - the first live performance at the Town Hall since the Coronavirus Lockdown (although with no live audience). The programme has a Yorkshire theme and includes an interview with composer Philip Wilby. Darius will introduce the pieces as he would normally do in his much-loved Monday lunchtime organ concerts at Leeds Town Hall.

<https://www.leadstownhall.co.uk/whats-on/all-shows/yorkshire-day-organ-concert/6332>

Letter from our Chair (attachment)

Attached is a letter from our Chairman Paul Henstridge, which includes a link to the article about Darius in the Sheffield Telegraph. You can also find the letter on the Chorus website at [Members Area / For information](#)

Sheffield Cathedral Choir

You may have heard that Sheffield cathedral choir has been disbanded. A number of ex-choristers have made a statement and launched a petition to reconsider. You can read more, and find a link to the petition, at <https://www.savesheffieldcathedralchoir.co.uk/>

Musical Resources

[A From Making Music](#)

[1. Keep enjoying music \(updated – new items are added at the top\)](#)

We all know how good just listening to music is for the soul. So much music already exists online and through national and local broadcasts, and lots more is being added.

- Previous BBC Prom concerts, including Mahler's 8th Symphony (of the Thousand) conducted by Simon Rattle on 9th August. [Link to the BBC Prom schedule](#)
- [Sheffield Music Academy's 26-hour Music Marathon, starts 10am on 25th July](#)
- [Link to ETO's singing lessons for children](#)
- [Link to ETO's adult singing lessons](#)

- Sheffield's young musicians have been recording from their gardens during the lock down. [See a compilation of their efforts here](#).
- [24 hour soundtrack from Concerteenies](#) – for young children and their families.
- [Sterndale Singers recently recorded Monteverdi's *Cantate Domino*](#) from their own homes, directed by Robert Webb. Look out for Chair Paul Henstridge among the tenors!
- Recording of Darius playing the final two movements of the Rachmaninov Suite for Two Pianos (playing both parts): [Listen to the Tarantelle](#) and [Listen to the Romance](#) or access both on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Information](#)
- New brass arrangement of the soprano aria '*How Beautiful Are the Feet*' from Handel's *Messiah*, one of three that Darius has put together during the lock-down, recorded by soprano Catrin Pryce-Jones with Black Dyke Band, all performing from their own homes. [Listen to How Beautiful Are the Feet](#)
- [Abbeydale Singers lock-down recording of Will Todd's 'Like a Rainbow Shining'](#)
- New University of Sheffield podcasts feature Radio 3's Tom McKinney discussing music-colour synaesthesia, expressiveness in music and music's relationship to space. [Listen to the podcasts here](#).
- The BBC has scheduled a plethora of concerts on both TV and Radio, including Mahler 8 conducted by Simon Rattle on 8th August. [Link to the BBC Prom schedule](#)
- Dark Sky Voices – a superb group of singers that includes soprano Ann Garbett's daughter Rachel. Hear their [beautiful version of Amazing Grace](#) or [I Wish I Knew How it Feels to Be Free](#).
- The Stay at Home Choir's gorgeous virtual performance of [O Radiant Dawn](#) from The Strathclyde Motets by James MacMillan
- [Jonathan Scott's free on-line organ recitals](#) – next one (the eighth) is on 21 July but they are all available to listen to on his website
- [Make Music Day 2020 official broadcast](#)
- [Making Music Virtual concerts](#) – by Making Music member groups from across the UK
- Opera North's singing workshops [From Couch to Chorus](#)
- [Sheffield Music Academy students' first mid-week concert](#)
- [Jonathan Scott playing Elgar's *Nimrod*](#) on the largest pipe organ in Asia
- Composer Eric Whitaker has been experimenting with virtual choirs for some years. Here his composition '[Cloudburst on You Tube](#)' for a taste of what's been done, and see his [website for further details](#).
- Royal Opera ballet and opera performances are free during lockdown, [see ROH website](#)
- [Sheffield Youth Orchestra's short video of We'll Meet Again](#) recorded by each child in her/his own home. Arranged, conducted & produced by George Morton
- [Messiah on self isolation choir website](#)
- Manchester Camerata are running regular [Mini Music Makers sessions for children](#), which are fun and interactive.
- [London Philharmonic Orchestra online](#) – performances, Question and Answer sessions and more.
- See [Camden Choir's on-line performance of True Colours](#) (and other delights)
- Second soprano Rachel Mallaband is one of the Stay at Home Choir singers backing the King's Singers in [this very beautiful recording](#) – do have a listen. You can join the next collaboration at [Stay at Home Choir](#)
- [Music in the Round's digital Chamber music festival](#) – all performances available to view until 31 May 2020.
- [We'll Meet Again from Sheffield Youth Orchestra](#)
- [Wild Wild West from the Mozart Group](#)
- [Jonathan Scott online organ recital from Albion Church](#) ends with Widor's Toccata
- [Roderick Williams and family](#) - lock-down concert from their home

- Tom Leech on-line sessions for primary children www.schoolssingingprogramme.org.uk
- St John's Passion from Isolation featuring Daniel Norman (Evangelist), Roderick Williams (Jesus), Catherine Wyn-Rogers, James Gilchrist, Kings Singers, The Sixteen and others. The [digital programme](#) lists participants, different episodes, chorale music.
- Another isolation concert, this time [Tenebrae on BBC i-player](#) (you will need to sign in).
- Classical Sheffield's administrator, Kate Shipway's guide to virtual choir activities; see [Hints and tips for virtual choirs on the Classical Sheffield website](#)
- Classic FM have produced an extremely comprehensive and regularly updated list of the [best live-streamed and classical concerts available online](#).
- First Position Strings (a Sheffield viola ensemble) [online recording of Bach's O Haupt voll Blut und Wunden](#) – look out for first soprano Katrina Hulse.
- Orchestra of Opera North's [online performance of Strauss' 'Also Sprach Zarathustra'](#).
- [Jonathan Scott's harmonium & piano recital with brother Tom](#) at home in Manchester:
- [Jonathan Scott's super online organ recital from the Bridgewater Hall](#)
- [Classic FM's list of choirs and orchestras that have performed at-home concerts](#)
- Choraline's Self Isolation Choir <https://www.theseisolationchoir.com/>
- On a lighter note: Beethoven 5 video (well worth watching)
- [Stay At Home Choir's Vivaldi Gloria](#)
- [Zurich Opera House's Verdi Requiem](#)
- [Berlin Philharmonika's digital concerts free for 30 days following use of voucher](#)
- Music section of [Chatter Pack article](#) lists streaming of live and pre-recorded concerts.
- [New York Metropolitan Opera](#)
- [Vienna State Opera](#)
- [Chamber Music Scotland](#)
- [What's on Stage](#) has listings of online performances (musicals and opera).
- Live Music Now Scotland's series of living room concerts [LMNS YouTube channel](#).
- Royal Scottish National Orchestra's [YouTube Channel](#).
- [Black Dress Code](#) digital concert hall - fee charged, passed on to musicians.

2 Virtual choirs

- Link to [Eric Whitacre's Virtual Choir](#)
- [The Sofa Singers](#), led by James Sills
- [Great British Home Chorus](#), led by Gareth Malone OBE
- [Stay at Home Choir](#)
- [Distant-Sing](#), run by our corporate member, Choir Community
- [Duet Yourself](#) (on Facebook)
- [Corona Virus Choir](#) (on Facebook)
- [Choir Choir Choir](#), led by Nobu Adilman and Daveed Goldman (on Facebook)

B Resources already on the Chorus website (in [Members Area / Rehearsals](#))

- [Brahms Songs of Destiny](#) on You Tube with score
- [Rehearsal notes for Messiah](#)
- [Messiah Choruses on You Tube with score](#)
- [Messiah Voice mp3 parts on Choralia](#)
- [Messiah online parts on CyberBass](#)
- [Video lessons to improve your skills in rhythm, tonal centering, and intervals](#)
- [Worksheets to go with the video lessons](#)
- [How do singers protect their voices?](#)
- [How opera singers take care of their voices](#)

- [Take care of your voice – British Voice Association](#)
- [Vocal health section of The Vocalist website](#)
- [Sing for Pleasure's Vocal health leaflet](#)
- [NIDCD advice on taking care of your voice](#)
- [Link to Maggie's vocal exercises](#)

Diary dates

Dates for 2020-21 – likely to be postponed or cancelled: Friday 6 November 2020 (After Hours concert); Saturday 12 December 2020 (Christmas carol concerts 2pm and 5.30pm)

Dates for 2021: Sunday 24 January 2021 (SICS concert), Sat 19 June 2021 (Faure Requiem – self funded but with some support from Halle Concert Society and SIV).

Yet to be confirmed: May 2021 self funded concert in the cathedral, programme to be arranged but will include Rachmaninov's Vespers. March 2022 (re-scheduled Mahler 2 for Classical Sheffield festival, now moved to 2022), April 2022 (eg Saturday 23 April or thereabouts) re-scheduled *Messiah* concert .

Dates for 2021-22 under discussion: Re-scheduled Mahler 8 possibly in May or June 2022.

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](#).

Reminder - On-line vocal exercises on 11 and 25 August

There will be two more on-line sessions in August, in order to ensure we are vocally fit enough to "hit the ground running" when we start in September. The sessions will be on Tuesday 11 and Tuesday 25 August, from 7pm for half an hour. Maggie will lead the sessions and soprano Georgina Hulse (our Education and Outreach Officer) will host. Thanks are due to both for providing us with this valuable facility. The links will be sent nearer the time. In the meantime, keep doing Maggie's Vocal Exercises, which are on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing Your Voice](#).

Reminder – buy Rachmaninov Vespers

The version of the Rachmaninov Vespers that we will use is ALL NIGHT VIGIL Opus 37 by Musica Russica, ISBN 0-9629460-6-0 (it has a pink cover). Members might want to order a copy for themselves, since we won't be able to distribute any copies that Els might have otherwise ordered on our behalf. It costs just over £31 from [Ackerman Music](#) or [Presto Music](#) (very rapid turn-around apparently) or a little bit less [from Forewoods Forescore](#) 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).

Reminder - SPC's two Facebook pages

[Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus Members Group](#) This is now a private group, for Chorus members and friends to share messages, questions and chat about performances, rehearsals, arrangements, links to other sites etc.

[Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus](#) This is the official SPC page. Importantly, it's open to anyone, ie, it's a public site. We use this to publicise concerts and for marketing generally. It's not really the place for members to chat among themselves, or to ask questions about rehearsals, music etc – please use the members page for that. For a very small fee (just a few pounds) we get Facebook to share event notifications to local classical music-lovers, so it's a super way to reach thousands of potential audience members – and a key way of attracting younger people

to our concerts. However, it means that any comments left on the site can be seen by thousands of people. So glowing, enthusiastic comments are the order of the day here!

Reminder - support

Louise Dawson, Julian Sullivan and Allan Lacey, will talk to any member feeling worried, isolated or lonely during this difficult time. If anyone wants to talk with them (it doesn't have to be a religious discussion) then they should contact one of them by email in the first instance. louise@revdawson.co.uk; j.v.sullivan@btinternet.com; AllanLacey@sheffieldphil.org
Dick Williams has offered to talk to anyone who wishes – on 0114 2308358. Thank you to all.

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 at MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org. However it is uploaded every week in [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#). The chorus user name is the same for every member, it's the word *member* and the password is *dariu5*. These are for chorus members only so please don't share them. However, urgent messages such as rehearsal venue changes are always listed above the log-in box so members can read the important part without logging in.

The Members Area of the website lists all the information included in the update, eg 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. 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.

A reminder of the Classical Sheffield Member's Area: <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/about> ; the password is **moremusic**.

Chair Paul Henstridge chairman@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@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/>