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Weekly Update Sunday 10 April 2022 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal Tuesday 12 April 2022 at St Mark's Church Broomhill

Our next rehearsal will be on Tuesday 29 March 2022, at St Mark's Church Broomhill at 7pm. Parking available at KES via Glossop Road entrance. If you haven't already, please return any borrowed Rachmaninov scores, with all your markings rubbed out so the Librarians don't have to do it.

We will be rehearsing *Messiah*, so please bring your own copy. Walton scores will be available to hire for £3 (correct change please).

Please note there will be NO REHEARSAL on Tuesday 19 April; instead there will be a compulsory piano rehearsal for *Messiah*, at KES, on Thursday 21 April at 7pm.

The rehearsal schedule is at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>; also on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) along with travel and access details. There are links to useful learning and rehearsal resources, including for *Messiah* and the Walton, plus advice for preparing at home and looking after your voice; see [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#). User name and password at bottom of each update.

Covid

Some members may wish to stay away from rehearsal until the number of cases across the population subsides; **each member should assess the risk and make their own decision about this**, which will of course be respected. We will continue to implement the precautions we have been taking, so please follow the guidelines for rehearsals:

- Do not attend if you have symptoms of Covid, or of flu or a cold (which often turn out to be Covid), or have been exposed to a person infected with Covid, or if you haven't had two vaccinations
- Please wear face coverings at all times, until just before we sing, unless you're exempt
- Stay distanced as much as you can, including when singing
- Make sure the windows and doors near you are open, on both floors
- Bring your own drinks and don't share them

- Please let us know if you get Covid; we will continue to alert anyone seated close by

For the latest advice please see <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

Messiah ticket sales and special offer (attachment)

We have only sold 250 or so tickets for Messiah, with just two weeks to go before the concert. Even if sales per day increase, we are unlikely to reach the target of 1,000 sales; 500 is more feasible. The City Hall is therefore announcing a special offer of £18 inclusive of all charges, a base price of £13. This will be available to anyone who applies for tickets, whether via the online link at <https://www.sheffieldcityhall.co.uk/event/messiah-23April2022>, in person at the City Hall box office, or at the door on the evening of the concert. It might take a few days to kick in, so if not operational on Monday please try again on Tuesday etc.

Our Press Release has been used by a number of brass band outlets including [4barsrest](#), and both SPC and Black Dyke have paid for Facebook advertising (see link below – please like and share). We gave 1,000 flyers to the City Hall for distribution to audience members leaving the classical concert last week, and for display in the racks at the City Hall. There are large sized posters on display in the foyer, and an email- mail to classical music subscribers is planned. Please help us to advertise the concert by distributing the flyers that are available at rehearsals, and/or use the attached e-flyer to advertise the concert by email or social media. Many thanks.

<https://www.facebook.com/SheffieldPhilChorus>

Messiah party tickets available for one more week

Tickets for the post-concert will be available to buy on Tuesday, after which we must provide final numbers to the City Hall – so please get your tickets on Tuesday at the latest; only people with tickets will be able to access the buffet. French and German visitors will be given complimentary tickets of course. The Lord Mayor will acknowledge our visitors, and there will be presentations to members who have served the Chorus well, as well as a sing-song such as was enjoyed in France, and of course the finger buffet and bar. Tickets are £15 – please see soprano Helen Kirk, our Social Events Officer.

French concerts – please promote, and come to at least one if you can

The French choristers are giving two concerts, the first in St Michael's Church, Malton on Friday 22 April at 6.30pm and the second in Buxton on Sunday 24 April in St John the Baptist Church at 7pm; you can pay at the door in both cases. Our French visitors are hoping that as many SPC members as possible will attend the two concerts – as they and their soloists and conductor attended the concerts we performed in Excideuil and St Astier. Please put the dates in your diaries. It would also be good if you could promote the two concerts as widely as you can, using the following links (please like and share if you're a Facebook user)

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EnsembleVocalePerigueuxEN>
- Website: [Choir Concert with Organist, Malton – Ensemble Vocal Perigueux](#)
- Social Media: [EnsembleVocalePerigueuxEN/](#)

Accompanied children welcome to attend *Messiah* rehearsal on 23 April

Children and grandchildren, nephews, nieces etc of Chorus members are welcome to attend the afternoon rehearsal for Messiah on Saturday 23 April. This will be a great opportunity for young family members to experience a live rehearsal at the City Hall, and to see what their Mum/Dad/Gran/Grandad etc get(s) up to on a Tuesday evening! Timings have yet to be finalised, but the chorus rehearsal will probably start at 2pm. Please note that all children or young people under 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for their safety and well-being throughout the rehearsal.

Message from bass Dick Williams

Members may not be aware that bass Dick Williams, who has been a member for many years, is leaving Sheffield to live in Kings Lynn near his family. He was planning to say his farewells at the Messiah party but unfortunately can no longer attend either the party or the concert. He sends best wishes to all his SPC friends and says '*I think they're all great and will miss everyone and the choir very much. Everyone has been very kind and friendly AND I have learned SO much. It's quite the best choir I have been part of and there have been many over, wait for it, 72 years!!!! I shall, if up to it, join a choir in Norfolk, but I'm sure it won't be up to (the standard of) the Phil. I hope to get up to Sheffield from time to time and will try to attend concerts when the choir is performing.*'

MD needed for Macclesfield Singers (two attachments)

Rachel Fright is accompanist for the Macclesfield Singers, whose conductor is leaving at the end of this season. Rachel says they are a lovely group who meet on Monday evenings, non-auditioned but very capable. Members might know of people who could be interested in applying for the job. Applications are due by 29th April to lynne.norbron@gmail.com; details in the attachments.

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 23 April 2022: 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 (NB time to be confirmed).
- 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 (NB time to be confirmed)
- *Saturday 18 June 2022: memorial celebration for Stella Jockel, Totley Parish Church at 2pm (elective)*

2022-23

- An After Hours concert in the City Hall ballroom, probably in November 2022. SICS
- Saturday in December 2022: City Hall carol concert(s) with Black Dyke Band. SICS
- Manchester Camerata concert (something short) City Hall probably February 2023 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. Self-funded
- Re-scheduled Verdi *Requiem* at City Hall, probably mid-June 2023. SICS
- re-scheduled Mahler Symphony No. 8 at Bridgewater Hall possibly June 2023

Under discussion

- Rutter *Gloria* - Black Dyke Band keen to do this with us sometime

Reminder – please pay subs!

Please can the last few who haven't yet paid their subs, do so immediately? The deadline was mid February! If anyone has difficulty paying for any reason, then please speak to Finance Officer Jane Parkin; her email is at the bottom of every weekly update.

What's On

See Classical Sheffield's What's On page for concerts around Sheffield in the next two weeks: <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 JaneParkin 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/>