

IMPORTANT: Tuesday's rehearsal is at St Mark's Church Broomhill (see below)

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Weekly Update Sunday 3 April 2022 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Next rehearsal Tuesday 5 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. King Edward's School have agreed to let choir members use their car park. The Glossop Road vehicle and pedestrian gates will be open until 10pm. In the (unlikely?) event that the gates don't open, please contact Anne Adams on 07847358814 and she will ring the caretaker who can open them from home. Please note that next week's rehearsal will also be at St Mark's Church Broomhill. This is because the school is closed over the Easter holidays.

We will be rehearsing *Messiah* in the first half and the Walton in the second, so please bring your own copy of *Messiah*. If you didn't get a Walton last week, it will be available to hire for £3 (correct change please). Resources to help members learn *Messiah* and the Walton are on the Chorus website (see below).

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.

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>

Please check *Messiah* singing list (attachment)

Please check the attached singing list for *Messiah* and let Marianne Grayson know if there's an error, eg, if you are on the list but are not singing, or aren't on the list but are singing in the concert. We need to let the City Hall know how many seats to put out, and of course the list is used to go in the concert programme, so do take a look and check. Many thanks.

***Messiah* tickets (attachment)**

Please advise family and friends to book *Messiah* via the online link at <https://www.sheffieldcityhall.co.uk/event/messiah-23April2022> or in person at the City Hall.

We need to sell 1,000 tickets to cover the £18,000 it will cost to put on *Messiah* at the City Hall – a rather daunting target, especially when compared with previous sales (805 in 2016 for 75th anniversary concert, 348 for *Messiah* in 2017, 364 for *Holy Face* in 2019, 220 for Rachmaninov in 2022).

It's worth pointing out that if every member of the Chorus could get two adults to come to the concert, we would have over 300 assured sales, leaving a more realistic 700 to get via online and walk-up sales. Some members sell many tickets, which is superb, but there are few who do this - it's EVERY member selling a couple of tickets that has real impact. So please do what you can to get friends and family to come to the concert!

Please take and distribute 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.

***Messiah* party tickets available – but only for the next two weeks**

Tickets for the post-concert will be available to buy on Tuesday and the following Tuesday, after which we must provide final numbers to the City Hall – so please get your tickets on Tuesday or the following Tuesday at the latest; only people with tickets will be able to access the buffet. The City Hall want provisional numbers so a straw poll will be called on Tuesday evening. Our 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, and of course the finger buffet and bar. Tickets are £15 – please see soprano Helen Kirk, our Social Events Officer.

The piano will be available in the ballroom so we could have a bit of a sing-along, as was enjoyed in France. However, we need one or two brave folk to start everyone off, so if there's anyone willing to perform their party piece, please let Helen Kirk know.

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 fully responsible for their safety and well-being throughout the rehearsal.

French concerts – call for afternoon tea numbers!

The French party is having afternoon tea before the concert in Buxton on Sunday 24 April, and members of the Chorus are warmly invited to join them. Please tell bass Matthew Morgan if you would like to join the group, as he needs to book. The concert is in St John the Baptist Church, Buxton at 7pm and you can pay at the door. The other concert is in St Michael's Church, Malton on Friday 22 April at 6.30pm; pay at the door.

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!

Please promote the two concerts as widely as you can, using the following links to the website and Facebook pages (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/](#)

Hallelujah Chorus flashmob

John Spence has suggested that we advertise the concert via a flashmob at Meadowhall. This will take place some time on either Saturday 9 or Sunday 10 April, probably in the afternoon. The idea is to gather somewhere central, mixing in with the shoppers, for a small group to set off the singing and for us all to gradually join in and move together so we are singing as a group at the end of the piece. A straw poll will be called on Tuesday at rehearsal, to see if sufficient members are willing to volunteer for this, which would be a super way to advertise the concert to the general public – we will hand out flyers once the singing is finished.

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 those 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.

Reminder - fundraising success featured on Classical Sheffield website

Classical Sheffield featured an item about our recent concert and the success in collecting for the Ukraine Red Cross Appeal. The article was featured in the most recent Classical Sheffield mailshot, and is also likely to feature on the Making Music website. **If anyone has a good photograph of the concert, please see Jim Monach**; thanks to Jim for writing and sending the copy. Read the article at <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/news/spc-fundraising-success>

Reminder - message from Michael Phillipott

Previous member Michael Phillipott is a long-standing Friend of the Chorus and was therefore recently invited to our Messiah concert. His very nice reply may be of interest to those who knew Michael. *"Thank you very much for your kind invitation but, I am very much afraid to say, I am unable to attend. I would dearly love to attend, not least as the number of people whom I know in the SPC is probably decreasing rapidly as each year passes!! Although I no longer sing we are lucky in Eastbourne that the London Philharmonic Orchestra visit us for an Autumn/Winter season each year and their last concert of this season is on Sunday 24th. As with everywhere, we were robbed of their presence for 18 months and when they gave their first concert (post lockdowns) last November we only had a 45-50% audience (our concert hall seats c1,700). That has gradually crept back up, presumably as people become more confident, so that we actually had a 'sold out' concert yesterday afternoon. Interestingly, as far as I am aware, I have never sat in an audience to listen to Messiah. Seems strange, but over the years I have sung it at least 59 times and 33 of those were as soloist - yes, I actually kept a fairly detailed record of all the concerts I sang in back to my schooldays and it makes for quite interesting (personal) reading. Whilst I do not sing, I am still working each week at the Bluebell Railway and alternate weeks for the RNLi here in Eastbourne - as well as managing some fairly strenuous walking on the South Downs - although it has been horrendously windy up there for the past 4 weeks! Anything to get me out of the flat!!!! I wish you all well, and hope that everything manages to come to fruition successfully on 23 April. Michael"*

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/>