

Compulsory conductor rehearsal Tues 7 June 2022 at KES;
Arrangements for the Belshazzar concert on Saturday 11 June 2022;
Covid;
Collect music for Stella Jockel memorial service;
Darius playing Bach Sat 18 June 7pm;
Sheffield Oratorio Chorus seek freelance Marketing & Development Officer
Diary dates (include compulsory rehearsal dates);
Reminders: Open Garden at the home of (the late Margaret and) Kim Staniforth;
What's On; Tell us if your contact details change; Web links and passwords; Contact emails

Weekly Update Sunday 5 June 2022 (also at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#))

Compulsory conductor rehearsal on Tuesday 7 June 2022 at KES

The next rehearsal is the compulsory conductor's piano rehearsal on Tuesday 7 June 2022 at KES, so please don't attend if you aren't singing in the concert. We will be joined by over 80 members of Leeds Festival Chorus, who will be sitting among us rather than separately, so please be friendly and welcoming, and help them find their way to their seats. The rehearsal will probably go on until 9.15pm. Seating order from the right facing the conductor: upstairs S1, A1, A2, S2 semi chorus at the front. Downstairs B1, T1, T2, B2, semi-chorus at the front.

Please can members observe our "no perfume or aftershave" policy, as these can cause real difficulties for some members, and are not good for any singers to be inhaling. Many thanks

The rehearsal schedule has been updated, <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf> and [Members Area / Rehearsals](#). Learning and rehearsal resources are at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#). User name and password at bottom of each update.

Black folders with the revised SPC logo are available at rehearsals, £7.50; if you would like one (no obligation) please see Sally Turnbull; correct change appreciated.

Arrangements for the Belshazzar concert on Saturday 11 June 2022 (ticket sales = 294)

You will be able to get into the City Hall from around 13.00, but we have been asked NOT to go on stage until 13.30 as the brass musicians are rehearsing and they are up at our level so our entry would disturb them. Please be in your place ready for the rehearsal by 13.50.

Enter the City Hall via the Stage Door, which is round the back down a short flight of steps. Ring the bell on the right hand wall if the door is locked. Turn left as soon as you go through the door and proceed down the corridor.

Please collect a wrist band and sign in using your membership card (please try not to forget it) before proceeding to the dressing room or stage. The sign-in station will be in the production corridor which is on the right after going through two sets of double doors. Please keep your wrist band on all day as it shows security staff that you do not need to be searched.

We have been allocated the North and South Halls down in the basement as dressing rooms. From the Stage Door, proceed along the corridor through three sets of double doors; you will pass the production corridor along the way. At the end there's another set of doors straight ahead; go through those and down the many stairs to the very bottom, then follow the signs to the North or South Hall. There's a lift if all those stairs are a bit daunting; please ask the Stage Door staff if you need this. You can leave your bags in the dressing rooms but don't leave valuables as the rooms won't be locked.

To get on stage left (choir 2), go along the corridor and through two sets of double doors, then up the stairs onto the stage. There should be signs to help find your way, or ask the stage door staff. There is a small dressing room next to the stage entrance (Dressing Room 4) that can be used by people with limited mobility.

To get on stage right (choir 1) from the Stage Door, go up the stairs leading from the foyer, turning right up a few more steps onto the stage. Please note that we are NOT to use Dressing Room 1 at the top of these stairs.

The seating plan is attached. We will use the organ seats as well as the choir risers, to enable us to spread out as much as we can. Seats are unallocated within each voice part, and your seat for the rehearsal is your place for the concert. Please arrange yourselves so that tall people sit towards the back, or the outsides of the row, because of sight lines. Once settled at the rehearsal only move inwards if a space opens up due to an unforeseen absence. Please note that the Leeds Festival Chorus have been asked to sit among us, so please be friendly and accommodating and invite them to join you if there's a space near you. Be prepared to move to improve sight lines or close gaps.

The brass musicians will be rehearsing until 13.30, and we have been asked NOT to take our seats before then. This is because they will be sitting on the platforms at each side next to the sopranos 1 and 2, so early arrivals will disturb them. Please be careful when entering and leaving so we don't get in their way – or suffer close encounters with brass instruments!

The Chorus rehearsal will probably end at 15.30, but may go on until 16.00. Darius asks that we stay in our seats for a short while so he can give us some feedback and pointers. The orchestra and soloist will probably continue rehearsing so once Darius has finished with us please leave the stage quickly and quietly.

It's important that you sign, out and of course back in again, on the tick sheets on the desk in the production corridor, if you leave the building at any time. This is to ensure staff don't search for you needlessly in the event of an emergency.

We can use the dressing rooms to spend waiting time and to eat and drink a packed meal if not going out for tea. Please leave these spaces as we find them.

For the concert we will enter the stage without lining up formally. Just take your places informally and gradually, to minimise crowding on the stairs. If you're happy with the long wait you can start to go on stage ready for the pre-concert talk at 6pm, which lasts about half an hour. If you take your seat during the talk please be as unobtrusive as you can, and **be in your seat by 18.50 at the latest.**

Music should be in black folders; take these on in the first half and leave them on your seats during the interval. Please be careful not to turn pages over at the end of a section; stay engaged and looking at the conductor until the next one starts. Turn the page early if we have a rapid entry, and quietly at all times.

We form part of the audience for the first half (about 40 minutes), so please be attentive and don't fidget as everyone can see us at all times. There is barely time to get off stage and back on again during the interval, with unavoidable crowding on the stairs, so you may prefer to stay in your on-stage seat – just make sure others in your row can enter and leave easily.

Dress - to conform across both choirs, it was agreed women will be all in black, either trousers or full length dresses or long skirts, tops to have full length sleeves and modest necklines, no sashes and no jewellery. Men will wear DJs with black bow ties. Please observe the 'NO PERFUME or AFTERSHAVE' rule, as some members react badly to these.

See [Members Area / Arrangements for concerts / stage procedure and dress code](#) for our stage procedure, though we won't be filing on (see above). Briefly: stay seated throughout the first half. After the interval, stand up when the conductor enters. When the piece ends stay still, lower scores together when the applause starts, do not applaud whilst standing, sit when the conductor leaves, stand when he asks us to do so, and sit when he leaves again. Only applaud whilst seated.

There is no parking at the City Hall itself, apart from for the orchestra and Leeds Festival Chorus coaches and for the conductors. There is plenty of car parking in the city centre, but no arrangement for reduced cost parking for concert goers or performers.

Health and safety and evacuation information:

- Do not attend if you have symptoms of Covid, flu or a cold, or are not double vaccinated
- Don't use perfume or aftershave as some singers react badly to these
- Try not to congregate in small spaces
- Bring your own drinks, and don't share them or take them on stage during the concert
- Don't use breakable vessels in the dressing room; store and carry hot drinks safely
- Keep belongings out of thoroughfares, especially in restricted areas
- Take care when using stairs and steps
- In the event of an emergency, leave via the Stage Door or as directed in an orderly fashion. Gather by the fountain in Barker's Pool. Do not try to retrieve belongings.

Covid precautions

Please continue to wear face coverings, other than when singing. The situation will be reviewed before we re-commence rehearsals after the summer break, ie on Tuesday 6 September 2022.

Reminder – collect music for Stella Jockel memorial service

If you haven't already, please collect the music from our Librarians, unless you have your own.

- Hymn - *Love Divine* (tune Blaenwern)
- *All Things Bright and Beautiful* arranged John Rutter
- *For the Beauty of the Earth* arranged John Rutter
- *The Silver Swan* Orlando Gibbons
- *Linden Lea* R. V. Williams
- Hallelujah Chorus G. F. Handel

There's still time to sign up if you'd like to sing; Tenors especially welcome! Rachel Copley will conduct, and Nigel Gyte will accompany us. There is likely to be a rehearsal on Tuesday 14 June at 7pm at KES (to be confirmed). All those attending the celebration, including chorus members, are invited to join the family afterwards for refreshments in the adjacent church hall.

Darius playing Bach

Darius will play organ music by Bach, including the *Tocatta and Fugue in D minor*, as part of Sheffield Bach Choir's all Bach concert at St Mark's Church, Broomhill on Saturday 18 June 2022 at 7pm. Tickets £12 and £10 <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/541097> or on the door.

Sheffield Oratorio Chorus seek freelance Marketing & Development Officer

The closing date is 15 June 2022. For details please see [Classical Sheffield / News](#)

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 11 June 2022: Walton *Belshazzar's Feast* at City Hall (part of SICS). Compulsory rehearsals Tue 07 Jun 7pm at KES (with Leeds Festival Chorus and conductor Finnegan Downie Deare) and Sat 11 June 2.00 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, refreshments afterwards (elective)

2022-23

- A concert in St Mark's Church Broomhill on Saturday 12 November 2022. Self-funded.
- 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, soloists Ella Taylor and Anna Harvey, 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 - Open Garden at the home of (the late Margaret and) Kim Staniforth

Kim Staniforth is opening his 2 acre garden as a fundraiser for Music in the Round, from 2 - 5pm on Sunday 19 June. The gardens at Park Hall, Walton Back Lane, Walton, Chesterfield S42 7LT are well worth a visit; listen to live music and enjoy refreshments as well. Book in advance at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-garden-with-live-music-tickets-294048205097>

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 *dariu5*; 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/>