

New items: Note about minimum attendance and special permission etc. Rehearsal schedule amended (April error corrected). More singers needed for elective carol gigs! Collect elective music on Tuesday; electives instructions and carol list attached. St Luke's rehearsal after main rehearsal Tues. Message from Paul Henstridge. Carol concert arrangements. Please check singing list.

### **Next rehearsal is on Tuesday 6 December 2022**

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 6 December at 7pm, at King Edward's Upper School. We will rehearse the Christmas music, which has already been handed out; don't forget your '100 Carols for Choirs' copies (white version or the separate green blue or orange volumes).

Falling audiences for choral concerts and the need for the City Hall to ensure cost effective use of the venue means that we have lost one of the two carol concerts we have enjoyed for some years. Under these circumstances we need to make sure we are on top notch form for the concert, some of the music for which is tricky and needs work; time spent rehearsing at home will really help. There are recordings of some of the carols on the website at [Members Area / Preparing the Music](#)

With a total of four full rehearsals for Christmas, the minimum attendance is three rehearsals, so some people need to attend both of the remaining rehearsals to be certain of being allowed to sing in the concert, and others need to ask for special permission to sing. Voice reps will contact anyone to whom this applies. It's worth noting that members currently on 88% attendance who miss next week will drop to 63% and need special permission, so try to stay well despite all the seasonal colds that are making the rounds! Please speak to your Voice Rep if you have concerns about your attendance or to ask for special permission.

There will be a short rehearsal with Rachel Copley for the St Luke's concert immediately after the main rehearsal, which will end a little earlier on Tuesday.

A gentle reminder that Darius prefers all members to take part in all concerts wherever possible, and to attend all rehearsals in any case. So please check this season's concert and rehearsal dates, the latter of which have recently been amended slightly (there was a mistake in the listing for April 2023) at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf> or via the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) (user name *member* password *M4hler8D@rius22*).

Links to rehearsal tracks and YouTube recordings of all the music we are singing are on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#)

### **Extra singers needed for carol singing! (two attachments)**

Please sign up for carol singing sessions. We are short of folk for all sessions but just tenors for St Luke's. Do see if you could contribute, they will all be great fun. **Instructions and carol list attached.** Collect sheet music at rehearsal on Tuesday, or on the day if you find you can join at the last minute. Good news - Georgina Hulse can conduct after all; thank you Georgina!

- Saturday 10 December at 3.30pm in Meadowhall (Lower Gallery, outside Primark and Next). 6 Sops, 4 altos, 2 tenors, 2 basses. Carols for shoppers in support of the Roundabout charity, which provides housing for young homeless people in Sheffield – see <https://www.roundabouthomeless.org/>. Forty minutes of singing following (and followed by) other choirs, no need for concert dress, jolly Christmas garb is better. Georgina Hulse will conduct. **Important requirement from those travelling by car – see attached sheet.**
- Sunday 11 December at 2pm: St Luke's carol service, Sheffield cathedral. 13 Sops, 9 altos, 2 tenors, 11 basses. Annual carol service that's always poignant and moving. Rehearsal at 1pm in the cathedral stalls. Full concert dress including scarves for ladies. Conductor Rachel

Copley. Introit: *Ding Dong merrily on high*, V1 & 3, 100 CC page 82. *Once in royal David's city*, solo first verse, then process, 100 CC page 260. *Still, still, still*, 100 CC page 306. *Star Carol* 100 CC page 293. *A Gaelic Blessing*, leaflet. Also congregational carols. Rehearsal on Tuesday evening after the main rehearsal; Nigel Gyte will play the piano.

- Wednesday 14 December at 7pm in the Millennium Galleries, carol concert for Friends of Sheffield Museums annual Christmas event. 13 sops, 7 altos, 2 tenors, 6 basses. Singing for about 45 minutes. Full concert dress including scarves for ladies. Rehearsal 6pm. Drinks and snacks provided. Georgina Hulse will conduct.
- Monday 19 December at 12.30, event in support of Macmillan Cancer Care in the Virgin Money Lounge (upstairs) for an hour or so. 6 sops, 3 altos, 1 tenor, 4 basses. No need for concert dress – jolly Christmas garb please. Drinks and mince pies provided. The lovely John Birchall – the man with the pram and green wig - may be there. Georgina Hulse will conduct. Please distribute the attached poster via family and friends. Thank you.

### **Christmas concert arrangements (singing list attached to check)**

1,072 tickets sold so far (capacity just over 3,000). City Hall have produced flyers and have asked if we will distribute them; they said they'd deliver them in time for members to pick up at rehearsal on Tuesday.

Message from Marianne Grayson about the attached singing list: *"Please could you check the Christmas singing list? If you are on it and know you can't sing in the concert, please let Marianne know. If you are not on it and would like to sing you will need special permission. Please contact your voice rep (who has the record of your attendance so far and can let you know where you stand) and copy me if you would like to request permission."*

Each year our Social Events Officer, Helen Kirk, organizes for a sherry and mince pies get together with Black Dyke, backstage at the City Hall, during the carol concert interval. At the next few rehearsals Helen and Richard Salt will be collecting donations to cover the cost. They will also be selling raffle tickets for a sumptuous Christmas hamper; these will be on sale until the day of the concert and the winning ticket will be drawn at the interval.

Arrangements for the concert are already on the website at [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#), and they will be listed in next week's update, with a link to the running order. The main thing to know is that the compulsory 'on-the-day' rehearsal is at 12 noon until 13.30pm; concert at 14.30.

### **Message from Paul Henstridge**

*'Thank you to the Chorus for your very generous gifts that I was presented with when I stepped down at the AGM. I have always felt it a great privilege to represent the Chorus as Chair for all those years and I send my best wishes to Jo who, I know, will be great as the new chair! Special thanks are due to Helen Kirk for the organisation that made the AGM social so special. Paul.'*

### **Thank you for paying your subs**

Thank you to all the members who have completed the online form and paid their subs – it's greatly appreciated. Please pay if you haven't yet! Jane Parkin will help anyone stuck on the online form or with bank transfers, and will answer queries about payment methods, before Tuesday rehearsals.

Message from Jane and Marianne: *'To reduce the significant administrative burden of handling subscriptions, we are making some changes this year:*

- Please use the online subs form <https://forms.office.com/r/EKSd5X1z4Z> No paper subs forms please! **NB Jane will be at rehearsal early, with her laptop, to do the form online for anyone who is really struggling.**
- Please could all subs payments be made by internet bank transfer or by standing order, no cheques or cash please!
- Monthly standing order payments are only available for those paying for 2 or 3 terms of the season. If you are paying for one term, please make a single internet bank transfer.
- Subs should be paid in full by the end of the season - so please ensure that your monthly standing order payments complete the amount and stop in July and restart the following November when the new subscription rate is fixed.

If any of these changes are unmanageable for you, please see Jane Parkin, Finance Officer, or Marianne Grayson, Membership Officer.'

### **Reminder - Christmas CDs only £5 – great presents!**

Copies of our very popular 'Awake Arise' CD of carols with Black Dyke Band will be on sale at rehearsals, at the special price of £5. Correct change appreciated. Many thanks

### **Reminder - rail strikes**

Rail strikes are planned for:

- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December (rehearsal night)
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December (Millennium Galleries elective)
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December (City Hall Christmas carol concert).

### **Reminder - for sale at rehearsals**

Alto Rachel Rowlands will be selling her book of children's poems *You Can't Take a Camel on the Train* at the next 2 rehearsals. £5, all proceeds to charities, plus for each copy sold to Phil members before Christmas she will donate 50p to the Phil. For a preview, see [You can't take a camel on the train | A Book by Rachel Rowlands](#)

### **Reminder - Classical concerts in Sheffield (attachment)**

Classical Sheffield has listed all the festive concerts that members are putting on for Christmas, and it's a splendidly long list with lots of choice, so do have a look and share it with friends and family – it's attached. You might also share it via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=849268289700584&set=a.734344751192939> or Twitter <https://twitter.com/ClassicalSheff>

### **Reminder of new password**

We've had a few security issues with the website recently so have had to change the password for the Members Area. The new password is **M4hler8D@rius22**. The username is still **member**. Please don't share these, for obvious reasons. Apologies for any inconvenience.

### **Darius organ recitals**

Darius will play in St Anne's cathedral in Leeds on 19 December. See <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/concerts.html>

### **Diary dates (*dates in italics are voluntary electives; attendance expected at all others*)**

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).

- Saturday 17 Dec 2022: City Hall carol concert with Black Dyke Band, 2.30pm. SICS. Rehearsal probably from 12 noon to 1.30pm at the City Hall.
- Saturday 4 Feb 2023: Caroline Shaw's *Music in Common Time* with Manchester Camerata, 7pm City Hall. SICS (15 minute choral piece). Compulsory rehearsal probably from 2 to 4pm, to be confirmed.
- Sunday 19 Mar 2023 Mahler Symphony No. 2 City Hall with Hallam Choral Society, Hallam Sinfonia and Sheffield Philharmonic Orchestra, conductor George Morton, soprano Ella Taylor, mezzo Anna Harvey. Includes performance of the Young Composer Competition winning piece and forms the finale of Classical Sheffield's 10th anniversary Festival Weekend. Self-funded. Rehearsal probably from 2pm to 5pm. To be confirmed.
- Sunday 18 Jun 2023: Verdi *Requiem* at City Hall with the Halle and Leeds Festival Chorus, 7pm. SICS. Compulsory rehearsal some time between 2pm and 5pm, to be confirmed.

### **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](#) (new spreadsheet uploaded).

### **Choraline rehearsal tracks**

If you use [Choraline](#) to purchase rehearsal tracks, please note that we have a discount of 20% on standard prices. To claim this, use the code SHEFF and type 'SINGER' in the discount code on the basket page. If ordering by telephone, quote these when asked.

### **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](mailto: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 *M4hler8D@rius22*; 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](mailto:dariusbattiwalla@talktalk.net)

Chair Jo Briddock [chairman@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:chairman@sheffieldphil.org) or [JoanneBriddock@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:JoanneBriddock@sheffieldphil.org)

Administrator Anne Adams [administrator@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:administrator@sheffieldphil.org) or [AnneAdams@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:AnneAdams@sheffieldphil.org)

Membership Officer Marianne Grayson [MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org)

Finance Officer Jane Parkin [JaneParkin@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:JaneParkin@sheffieldphil.org) or [accounts@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:accounts@sheffieldphil.org)

New members Officer Sally Turnbull [SallyTurnbull@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:SallyTurnbull@sheffieldphil.org)

Librarians Alan and Rosemary Anderson [alananderson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:alananderson@sheffieldphil.org)

S1 Voice Rep Katrina Hulse [KatrinaHulse@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:KatrinaHulse@sheffieldphil.org)

S1 Voice Rep Jacqui Amos [JacquiAmos@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:JacquiAmos@sheffieldphil.org)

S2 Voice Rep Patricia Hall [PatHall@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:PatHall@sheffieldphil.org)

A1 Voice Rep Nerissa Kisdon [NerissaKisdon@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:NerissaKisdon@sheffieldphil.org)

A2 Voice Rep Kate Reece [KateReece@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:KateReece@sheffieldphil.org)

T1 & T2 Voice Rep Jim Monach, 1st Tenor [JimMonach@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:JimMonach@sheffieldphil.org)

B1 Voice Rep Richard Salt [RichardSalt@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:RichardSalt@sheffieldphil.org)

B2 Voice Rep Alan Lacey [AllanLacey@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:AllanLacey@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](mailto:administrator@sheffieldphil.org). The full Privacy Policy is on the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/about-us/privacy-policy/>