

Next rehearsal is on Tuesday 10 January 2023

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 10 January at 7pm, at King Edward's Upper School. We will continue to rehearse the Caroline Shaw work. Please return your Christmas music, in it's plastic folder if you can, and with markings rubbed out – please don't leave this for the Librarians to do, it can take them hours!

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](#)

Carol singing at Virgin Money (attachment)

Please come along to the Virgin Money Lounge on Monday if you can, as we are short of singers, especially tenors, and it's a super charity. We will probably sing much the same programme as we sang at the Millennium Galleries. You'll need 100 Carols for Choirs and some sheet music, which you can collect at the venue.

The event is in support of Macmillan Cancer Care, in the Virgin Money Lounge on Fargate Sheffield (upstairs) for an hour or so. Please arrive from 12 noon (it starts at 12.30) and ask to be directed upstairs. Not concert dress – jolly Christmas garb please. Drinks and mince pies provided. The lovely John Birchall – the man with the pram and green wig - will be there. Georgina Hulse will conduct. Please distribute the attached poster via family and friends and ask them to come and support this fantastic charity, from whom many of our relatives and friends have gained help and comfort. Thank you.

Christmas concert

Judging from comments made as they were leaving, the concert was extremely well received by audience members. Darius thought it was a great concert. Many thanks to everyone who sang for putting their all into the concert, to Jim for making sure we all sat in the right place, to Helen and her helpers for the social arrangements, to Ann Garbett and her team for the fantastic Christmas decorations – the stage looked wonderful as always – and to everyone who helped. We sold £290 worth of CDs in the foyer, which is great – just about 60 left now. The CDs have turned out to be a great fund-raiser, with folk from round the country still sending for them each Christmas. Time we made another perhaps? Here are a few comments, and thanks from Helen.

Tom Redmond (Twitter): *"It was great to see you all again and bravo for a magnificent concert! Happy Christmas!!!"*

Neil Taylor (Facebook): *"A total pleasure to share the Sheffield City Hall stage earlier this afternoon with Black Dyke Band and Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus"*

Audience member (Facebook): *"And so Christmas really begins! Christmas Concert at the City Hall, Sheffield with the Black Dyke Band and the Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus."*

Helen Kirk (email): *"It was lovely to be able to reinstate the sherry and mince pies during the interval after the Covid restrictions of the last 2 years, although I did feel a little rusty in the order I did things. My job was made so much easier thanks to everyone who helped particularly, Diane, Jenny, Lydia (who incidentally won the hamper), Di, Flick, Richard and thank you to anyone else I may have forgotten. I also wish to thank all who have supported me in fulfilling my*

role throughout the year, not least Anne and the committee. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all, with good health and beautiful musical opportunities. Helen”

Videos of the concert

A number of audience members recorded parts of the carol concert on their mobiles and have shared the result on social media. Please be aware that making recordings of performances in the City Hall is strictly forbidden. City Hall or Sheffield City Trust staff are unlikely to see the videos on our private (members only) Facebook account, which is where you can find these recordings - but **please don't share any videos that you see or are sent**. Also, Darius is keen to ensure that publicly available recordings of our Chorus are of the very best quality. Many thanks for your cooperation and support.

Electives thanks

Sheffield Museums Trust: Thank you to everyone who sang at the Millennium Galleries last week, and to Georgina Hulse for conducting. It went very well indeed. Here are a couple of thank you messages. *“It's always such a privilege to hear you sing. Thank you so much for giving up your evening to spend time with us. Warmest wishes, Kim”* (Kim Streets, Chief Executive, Sheffield Museums Trust.) *“Many thanks for joining us last night and for the beautiful performance given by the Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus. It really does make the evening to have you there and it's much appreciated by the Friends – and by the staff (who were all gathered by the doors listening!) Thanks for your support. Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy 2023. With best wishes, Amy”* Amy Lumb, Development and Communications Officer, Sheffield Museums Trust

Roundabout: *“Hello everyone, Thank you so much all of your help this year, from donations to collections, volunteering and taking on a challenge, you have helped to make a real difference to the lives of homeless young people across our city. 2022 has been a difficult year, and for the young homeless people that Roundabout supports, Christmas can often be an especially challenging time. During a month that is often filled with family festivities, many of our young people aren't able to join celebrations with their loved ones. However, thanks to your kindness and support, Roundabout is able to celebrate with our young people, help them to feel loved and valued and create life-long festive memories. Last Christmas, Roundabout supported a young woman and her new-born baby in one of our Resettlement properties. While this was an exciting time, it was also incredibly overwhelming for her. Throughout December, she became increasingly worried that she would be unable to provide a special first Christmas for her baby. However, thanks to help from her support worker and donations made to Roundabout's Christmas fundraising appeal, she was able to enjoy the Christmas she dreamed of for herself and her baby. “If Roundabout hadn't given me those presents, I wouldn't have had anything to open on Christmas Day.” Stories like this show how important the work we do at Roundabout is, and the positive impact we make on young people's lives. Thank you for all of your support, it has been a real pleasure to have been able to work with you this year. Your support means that every one of the 350 young people we work with will have the care and support they need during the festive season and help give them all a Christmas to remember. Thank you for helping to give our young people a brighter future. Best wishes, Emily and everyone here at Roundabout!”* Emily Bush Fundraising Manager

Christmas message to the Chorus from President Rachel Copley

‘May I wish you all the very best for Christmas, a season to enjoy precious time with loved ones, and one to anticipate the coming year, with its promise of music making to come. With love, Rachel X’ NB Messages by appointment only (!)

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.

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 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 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

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S1 Voice Rep Katrina Hulse KatrinaHulse@sheffieldphil.org

S1 Voice Rep Jacqui Amos JacquiAmos@sheffieldphil.org

S2 Voice Rep Patricia Hall PatHall@sheffieldphil.org

A1 Voice Rep Nerissa Kisdon NerissaKisdon@sheffieldphil.org

A2 Voice Rep Kate Reece KateReece@sheffieldphil.org

T1 & T2 Voice Rep Jim Monach, 1st Tenor JimMonach@sheffieldphil.org

B1 Voice Rep Richard Salt RichardSalt@sheffieldphil.org

B2 Voice Rep Alan Lacey 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. The full Privacy Policy is on the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/about-us/privacy-policy/>