

**New items: Compulsory rehearsal Fri 16 Jun replaces Tue 13 Jun; Message from Rachel Copley; BBC Music cuts update; Piano for sale; Diary dates for next season; Singing Opportunities**

### **Next rehearsal is on Tuesday 18 April 2023**

The next rehearsal is on Tuesday 18 April at King Edward VII Upper School, rehearsing the Verdi Requiem. Please use the vehicle gate on Glossop Road; pedestrians can use the gates on both Glossop Road and Newbould Lane (they may need a good push).

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 at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf> or via the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) (user name *member* password *M4hler8D@rius22*).

The Chorus website also has a link to recordings and rehearsal tracks for the Verdi, at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#).

Please return your Mahler 2 score as soon as possible if you haven't already done so, rubbing out all markings so our Librarians don't have to undertake this task. Many thanks.

If you'd like a new folder with the up-to-date SPC logo, Sally and Marianne will have a few each week, price £7.50. No obligation. Don't forget that narrow black elastic wound round the spine a few times, holds lots of large-sized scores more effectively than the in-built folder cords, and can't be seen by the audience.

**Please note that the compulsory conductor rehearsal for the Verdi *Requiem* concert will be on Friday 16 June at 7pm, at Birkdale School, 4 Oakholme Road, Sheffield, S10 3DH. This will be instead of, rather than as well as, the rehearsal on Tuesday 13 June 2023.**

### **Message from SPC President Rachel Copley**

*"Dear Friends, It is with great regret that I announce that Rotherham Choral Society will be finishing, following their concert on April 29th. This has been a very difficult decision for all concerned, and not taken lightly, but we would welcome you to help us give the choir a good 'send off'!*

*We are sharing this concert of lighter music with members of the Sheffield Police Brass Band. It will take place at Herringthorpe United Reformed Church, Wickersley, Rotherham, S60 4JN on April 29th. at 7 30pm.*

*The tickets cost £5, with a contribution going to charities chosen by the band. We do hope that you will join us on this occasion. With best wishes, Rachel Copley."*

### **BBC classical music cuts - update**

BBC Singers have a temporary reprieve, but only if someone else can be found in September to manage them. There is no news on the orchestras. Read up-to-date information on the Musicians Union (MU) website at <https://musiciansunion.org.uk/all-campaigns/protect-our-bbc>

The MU have come up with a template letter to send to the BBC and your MP if you haven't already and would like to. The link to the MU letter is here: <https://musiciansunion.org.uk/all-campaigns/protect-our-bbc/template-letter-to-the-bbc>

To give you an idea about how to personalise the letter, here is one sent by Katherine Wren (copied with her permission) that might be useful.

*'As a professional musician with the RSNO resident in Dunblane I would like to emphasise the role that the BBC plays in my professional life as a resource, inspiration and employer of many of my colleagues.*

*As a license fee payer, particularly one living outside the urban centres, I am a frequent consumer of classical music programming on BBC TV and Radio 3 and would very much feel the loss of quality programming were the BBC to "trim" their music offering.*

*I also enjoy and learn from documentaries such as the Blue Planet and Wild Isles, for which the BBC Concert Orchestra recorded the music. This vital information on the climate emergency would be far less hard-hitting without the contribution of the BBCCO.*

*There seems also to be a perception in the BBC that amateur musicians can partly replace the work of the BBC ensembles. This is very far from the truth. Whilst not wanting to denigrate the quality and contribution of amateur musicians to the social and cultural life of Britain, they are unable to work as quickly, efficiently or to the same standard as professional musicians. Nor do many of them possess the same facility to work across all genres of music.'*

- Submit a complaint to the BBC's Complaints department at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/contact/complaints/make-a-complaint/#/Complaint>
- Complain to the BBC Board: see <https://www.ism.org/news/take-action-against-bbc-cuts-to-classical-music>
- Write to Director General Tim Davie at [tim.davie@bbc.co.uk](mailto:tim.davie@bbc.co.uk)
- Write to Charlotte Moore, the Chief Content Officer at the BBC [charlotte.moore@bbc.co.uk](mailto:charlotte.moore@bbc.co.uk)
- Write to Lorna Clarke, the Head of Radio and Music at the BBC [lorna.clarke@bbc.co.uk](mailto:lorna.clarke@bbc.co.uk)
- Write to your MP (find yours here: <https://members.parliament.uk/members/Commons> )
- Share posts you see on social media, especially those that are spreading the link to 'what to do' information.

There's more suggested wording at: <https://blog.thoroughlygood.me/2023/03/14/what-you-can-do-to-save-the-bbc-singers-and-orchestral-musicians/>

Many thanks for your help.

### **Bechstein piano for sale**

A colleague of Kate Wilson's is moving to Australia and would like to find a good home for his grand piano. 1920 C. Bechstein model A 192. Price to be discussed with whoever is interested – if that's you, contact Kate via Anne Adams by replying to this update.

### **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).

City Hall ask that we keep Mum about the 2023-24 City Hall dates as the brochure has not yet been published.

- Sunday 18 Jun 2023 at 7pm: Verdi *Requiem* at City Hall with Halle and Leeds Festival Chorus, SICS. Compulsory conductor rehearsal Friday 16 June 7pm at Birkdale School, on-the-day rehearsal sometime between 2pm and 5pm, to be confirmed.
- Saturday 28 October 2023 Concert at St Mark's Church, Broomhill, programme to be confirmed. Self-funded
- Tuesday 14 November 2023 – AGM

- Monday 20 November 2023, venue to be arranged, carols with Black Dyke Band (recording session for their new Christmas CD)
- *Sunday 10 December 2023: St Luke's Carol Service, Sheffield cathedral 2pm (elective)*
- Saturday 16 December 2023 Christmas Concert with Black Dyke Band, Petroc Trelawny presenter. SICS. One concert, 2.30pm.
- Saturday 16 March 2024, concert in Victoria Hall, self-funded.
- Friday 21 June 2024 Mozart *Requiem*, Cadogan Hall London (invitation)
- Saturday 22 June 2024– Mozart *Requiem* with Flanders Symphony Orchestra. SICS. Also, Mozart *Don Giovanni*: Overture and Beethoven Symphony No.8.
- Sunday 23 June 2024 Mozart *Requiem*, Usher Hall Edinburgh (invitation)
- 10 to 17 July 2024 Faure *Requiem*, mini tour in France (self-funded)

### Singing opportunities

- **Karl Jenkins' The Peace Makers in Chesterfield 3 June 2023** £25. For details see <https://chestphilchoir.org.uk/choral-day/>
- **Bring & Sing Choral Day Sat 10 June.** Martin Lightowler is organising a Bring and Sing Choral day in Broomhill on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup>. Martin conducts The Westside Singers and is an experienced choral conductor. See flyer on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Weekly Updates.](#), or email [martinlightowler@gmail.com](mailto:martinlightowler@gmail.com) or text on 07948 407 209.
- **Workshop Day singing Will Todd's *Mass in Blue*** led by the composer himself, on Saturday June 10<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am to 3:30pm. Open to anyone, whether or not they intend to sing in the concert in July (see below). Sign up online for £20 at <https://www.sheffieldoratorio.org.uk/guestsingers>
- **Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* Sat 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023.** Sheffield Oratorio Chorus and Sheffield Chamber Choir are performing *Mass in Blue* by Will Todd, conducted by Will Todd, along with Bob Chilcott's *Nideros Jazz Mass* on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023. They are inviting guest singers to join them – a £25 fee is payable. Rehearsals with SOC are on Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm until 9:00 pm at St Andrews Church, Psalter Lane, Sheffield S11 8YL from Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April (no rehearsal 12<sup>th</sup> April). Sign up online at <https://www.sheffieldoratorio.org.uk/guestsingers>
- **Baroque Masters, Channing Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023, 11.30 to 16.30.** Tim Knight's latest Come and Sing event is in Channing Hall, 45 Surrey St, Sheffield S1 2LG, UK, on 3 July 2023. The programme includes Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach, Handel and other classic choral pieces. Some sight-reading ability and experience of choral singing is an advantage. Music for hire on the day. The £15 ticket includes refreshments and a £5.00 voucher for Tim Knight Music events or products. Book at <https://www.timknightmusic.com/events/come-and-sing-day-the-baroque-masters>
- A list of wider singing opportunities, compiled by Phil Masters and provided by John Morgan, is on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Information / Singing Opportunities](#)

### Reminder - no concert extract videos on social media please!

Just a reminder that the City Hall forbids the sharing of concert snippets on social media – and we do not have permission from the soloists for this. Many thanks

**Reminder - Leeds Leider Festival 9 to 17 June - guest Dame Janet Baker 11 June** A flyer for the Leeds Leider Festival is on Chorus website at [MembersArea/Weekly Updates.](#) Note the event featuring Dame Janet Baker on Sunday afternoon 11 June.

### 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'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).

### **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)

Social Events Officer Helen Kirk [HelenKirk@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:HelenKirk@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/>