

## NEXT REHEARSAL IN SEPTEMBER

Our next rehearsal will be at King Edward VII Upper School on Tuesday 5 September 2023. We will be rehearsing for the October concert, eg the Durufle *Requiem*, the pieces by Tavener and Saint-Saëns, and two versions of the Sheffield Nocturne – one by our own Rachel Fright, the other by Robin Morton.

### Verdi scores

Grateful thanks to our wonderful librarians for organising the music, and to those kind members who helped them to rub out all the markings. If you haven't returned your hire score, please make arrangements to get it to Alan and Rosemary Anderson as soon as possible, as the scores must be sent back during the summer or the Chorus will be fined. You can contact Alan and Rosemary at [AlanAnderson@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:AlanAnderson@sheffieldphil.org)

### Verdi concert feedback

The Verdi concert went extremely well – in the end 1,080 tickets were sold or given to VIPs. Thanks to all those who helped organise rehearsals and concert including Marianne Grayson, Jim Monach, Georgina Hulse, Rosemary and Alan Anderson and Anne Burleigh, and all the Voice Reps. Leeds Festival Chorus were particularly pleased with the welcome they were given, so many thanks everyone for looking after them so well. Thanks especially to Darius for preparing us so very well, to Maggie for expert tuition and to Rachel for exceptionally fine accompanying. We've received lots of positive feedback about the performance, some of which is listed below.

*Darius 'Thank you all for a fantastic concert on Sunday. You had all worked really hard and the rehearsal time definitely paid off with some wonderful singing. I know you all loved working with Sofi and there was lots of positive feedback about the concert afterwards. Thanks also for making the Leeds Festival Chorus so welcome - Rebecca told me that they absolutely love their visits to Sheffield and are keen to do more, and it is great for us to have the extra singers for such a big concert. Enjoy the summer and see you in September. Best wishes Darius'*

*Rachel Copley 'So gutted not to be singing with you last night, but my word, what a privilege to be a member of the audience! Soloists, orchestra, wonderful conductor, but above all, the massed voices on stage, giving us the full range of volumes and emotions, all testament to the hours of rehearsals under Darius' guidance and training. Truly a very fitting closing concert of the season, and a wonderful celebration of music in the North! Have a good summer, love & thanks, Rachel x'*

*Peter Coltman (Leeds Festival Chorus) 'Our experience of working with you - again – has been wonderful and culminated in a marvellous concert. We would dearly like to arrange a return match, but we have to postpone this sine die while the Leeds Town Hall is closed. We had hoped that it would be open by September '24 but we have now learned that this will not be so and a date for its re-opening has yet to be agreed. We look for better times. Once more, thank you! It has been a joy to work with you. Best wishes, Peter'*

*David Hartley Hon Member '...may I say how much I enjoyed the Verdi Requiem. The choruses were on great form and very well combined, and the orchestra and soloists were excellent. So thank you all round. After 42 years with the chorus I have settled into my new retirement surprisingly easily... It is lovely to be able to get to many of the concerts and recitals that you, Darius and others offer. I am elated and proud to be addressed as honorary member! With all good wishes to the chorus. .Kindest regards David (ex 602)'*

Audience members

- *"Thanks - that was an immense performance. Whole thing was great - soloists, choir and orchestra."*
- *"Well done, that was phenomenal. We all reckon it was one of the best versions of that we've seen/heard. Worth the hard work!"*
- *"That was honestly the best performance of this piece I have ever heard. Great soloists. Great orchestra. Outstanding chorus."*
- *"What an amazing concert!"*
- *"Mesmerising performance tonight of Verdi's Requiem with the Halle Orchestra. Good for the Soul."*

Just to let you know that the gentleman from Leeds who had to leave during the performance had been feeling queasy all day but he recovered quickly and is now well.

### **Darius concerts**

Monday 26 June, 1.15pm, Leeds, St Anne's Cathedral, [International Organ Festival series](#) (Mendelssohn, Bach, Reubke)

Full list and details at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/concerts/concerts-2023.html>

### **Mahler 2 in Monte Carlo in September**

Still no further news about this. Facts we know so far:

- The £330 covers both air fare and accommodation (an extremely good deal).
- Implication of the twin room booking is that members will need to pair up.
- Family members cannot be accommodated via the CBSO arrangement.
- Volunteers MUST have sung the Mahler 2 in March – CBSO specifically asked for singers who had performed it very recently.
- The performance won't be off copy but singers will be expected to know the piece well.
- There won't be any rehearsals other than those on Saturday 23 in Monte Carlo.

A gentle reminder that we will have started rehearsals for our October concert, so CBSO will not be asked about extensions before or beyond 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September - Darius responded positively to the request because the trip would not interrupt SPC rehearsals.

### **Soprano 2 Voice Rep**

The second sopranos are losing their wonderful Voice Rep Pat Hall, who was thrilled with the flowers and earrings with which the section presented her at the Verdi rehearsal. The second sops are so grateful for the way Pat has supported them, so sensitively and with such care. Thank you, Pat, you're a star!

We are now in need of a replacement. The role includes liaising between members and the Membership Officer and/or Darius, issuing reminders, eg of the attendance requirement, Chorus Rules, dress code etc, checking the singing list and warning members in danger of falling off the singing list. If you'd like to know more, please contact Pat or any of the Voice Reps whose contact details are listed at the end of each weekly update. If you're a second soprano who'd like to give SPC a bit of support over and above singing, please contact Anne Adams either in reply to this update or via the contact details below. Many thanks.

### **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).

- 22 to 25 September 2023 Mahler 2 in Monte Carlo (elective)
- Saturday 28 October 2023 Durufle *Requiem*, and works by Saint-Saëns and Tavener, *Sheffield Nocturne* versions by Rachel Fright and Robin Morton. St Mark's Church, Broomhill. Self-funded
- Tuesday 14 November 2023 – AGM
- Monday 20 November 2023, venue to be confirmed, 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, probably Britten *St Nicholas* plus works by contemporaries of Britten including Grace Williams. Victoria Hall, self-funded with small orchestra.
- Late April or early May 2024 – possible Come and Sing event – probably Haydn's *Creation*, venue and date to be confirmed.
- Friday 21 June 2024 Mozart *Requiem*, Cadogan Hall London (arranged by IMG)
- 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 (arranged by IMG)
- 10 to 17 July 2024 Faure *Requiem*, mini tour in France (elective)
- Saturday 21 June 2025 Mahler Symphony No 8, Chester Cathedral, Wrexham Symphony Orchestra

### Singing opportunities

- Will Todd's *Mass in Blue* Sat 1st July 2023. Sheffield Oratorio Chorus (SOC) and Sheffield Chamber Choir, conducted by Will Todd, plus Chilcott's *Nideros* Jazz Mass. Saturday 1st July 2023. £25 fee. SOC rehearsals Wed evenings from 19:30 until 21:00 pm at St Andrews Church, Psalter Lane, Sheffield S11 8YL from Wednesday 5th April (no rehearsal 12th April). Sign up online at <https://www.sheffieldoratorio.org.uk/guestsingers>
- St John's Ranmoor annual Come and Sing on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023, rehearse from 11am, concert 7.30pm. Baroque choral music with strings and trombones - Monteverdi's *Beatus Vir* and Heinrich Biber's *Requiem in F Minor* plus polychoral motets with double and triple choirs. Conducted by Philip Collin, DM at St John's and new Conductor of Sheffield Bach Choir. Price £15 for participants, £10 for the concert, pay on the day. To take part or find out more, email: [music@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](mailto:music@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)
- Baroque Masters, Channing Hall, Sunday 04 November 2023. Tim Knight's latest Come and Sing event, Channing Hall, 45 Surrey St, Sheffield S1 2LG, UK, is now on Sunday 4 November (re-scheduled from July due to train strikes). Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Bach, Handel and other classic choral pieces. Some sight-reading ability and choral experience an advantage. Music for hire on the day. £15 ticket includes refreshments. Book <https://www.timknightmusic.com/events/come-and-sing-day-the-baroque-masters>

A list of wider singing opportunities, compiled by Phil Harrison and provided by John Morgan, is on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Information / Singing Opportunities](#)

### Hanson Arts – a super musical charity

Alto Kate Reece recently visited the "Hanson Community Arts" shop in Marston village, where they repair brass, wind and string instruments. They lend out musical instruments to school age children and have their own junior orchestra and choir. Kate was fascinated by their enthusiasm and the size of the place. For those who'd like to know more, or who may be minded to support them, see <https://hansonarts.org/>

## **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/>