

**URGENT - Tuesday's rehearsal at St Mark's – don't arrive before 6.35 please**

## **NEW ITEMS**

**Seating guide - starts 'please sit in columns'**

**Complete the form for the French trip**

**Welcome to our Young Conductor Joe Banerjee**

**Last chance to share link to vote for Inspiration Award**

**Chris Wiltshire's Schubertathon on 8 and 9 June 2024**

**Pennine Spring Music Festival 27 May to 1 June 2024 (in Singing Opportunities)**

**Next rehearsal is on 30 January 2024 at St Mark's Church**

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 30 January 2024 at 7pm in St Mark's Church, Broomfield Road, S10 2SE. **PLEASE DON'T ARRIVE BEFORE 6.35** as Darius will be giving an organ lesson; if you're early you will be asked to wait in the foyer and it's quite a small space. We have arranged for the church to be heated so please make sure you close all doors behind you as you pass through them.

Church accessible from 6.35pm, parking in the local streets, not at King Edward's. Buses from across the city go to the Royal Hallamshire Hospital across the road; these include the H1, 2, 6, 10/10a, 120, 181, 271 and X2. Nearest tram stop is University, a 10-minute walk away from the church. Rehearsal will also be at St Mark's on 27 February and 12 March as the school is using Heeley Hall.

**Please sit in columns:** Right side looking forward, from the outside S1, S2, all Ts next to the aisle at the front – in rows of 2 please, so that S2 can fit in a column next to tenors otherwise S2 all have to go behind and can't see). Left side from the outside A2, A1, basses next to the aisle but B2 at front, B1 behind leaving space for altos so that altos are not tucked behind basses.

**Rehearsal notes** are on the website along with links to recordings and rehearsal tracks for the pieces we are singing in March, and an interesting article about Britten's Rejoice in the Lamb, at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#).

Mobile 'phone interruptions and distractions seem to have stopped, many thanks for your consideration. However please nudge the person next to you if they get out their mobile during the rehearsal; it's okay in emergencies of course but please leave the room. Many thanks.

Darius will issue a rehearsal schedule for the rest of the year in due course, at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>, also on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) (user name member password M4hler8D@rius22).

Please check the season's concert dates and their compulsory piano and tutti rehearsal dates and times (in Diary Dates below) and let your Voice Rep know about any concert or compulsory rehearsal you are unable to attend. A gentle reminder that Darius prefers all members to take part in all concerts wherever possible, and to attend all rehearsals in any case. Many thanks.

**Welcome to our Young Conductor Joe Banerjee**

As announced at the AGM, the Chorus recently launched a new project in support of a young person who aspires to be a conductor, to give them opportunities they might not otherwise get in what are tough times for aspiring musicians.

Our young conductor is Joe Banerjee, who is a third-year medical student at the University of Sheffield. Joe loves choral music and is already doing some choral conducting within the music

department. He will observe Darius at rehearsals and will be given the opportunity to conduct for short periods now and then, and possibly to conduct part of a concert. Darius will provide him with feedback and a written report at the end of the scheme, and SPC will provide a bursary of £500. In addition, Joe has agreed to sing with us for as much of the season as he can – and he's a tenor!

Darius will introduce Joe on Tuesday so please give him your usual SPC welcome.

### **Last chance to share the link for the Inspiration Award!**

Please make one last push to spread the word about the public vote for the Royal Philharmonic Society Inspiration Award. The deadline is 10am on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Please feel free to share via the wording below or use your own.

We are so thrilled to have been nominated for the [Royal Philharmonic Society](#) Inspiration Award sponsored by Presto Music! We need your help! Please vote for us by following the link below, deadline 10am 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024:

[https://royalphilharmonicsociety.org.uk/awards/rps\\_music\\_awards/inspiration-award/sheffield-philharmonic-chorus](https://royalphilharmonicsociety.org.uk/awards/rps_music_awards/inspiration-award/sheffield-philharmonic-chorus)

### **Music**

If you use [Choraline](#) to purchase rehearsal tracks, please note that we have a discount of 20% off 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.

New music folders are available at rehearsals, from Sally and Marianne, price £7.50. No obligation. Narrow black elastic wound round the spine a few times holds multiple copies of sheet music and can't be seen by the audience.

### **Please complete the form for the trip to France in July 2024**

Matthew Morgan has sent a form to all those who have expressed an interest in going to France in July 2024, so please complete this. If you are interested and haven't already let Matthew know, please do so as flights will need to be booked fairly soon (though you can arrange your own travel by car or train if you prefer). If interested please email [france2024@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:france2024@sheffieldphil.org). Key details:

- Fly out 10 Jul 2024 at 06.00 from East Midlands, arrive about 08.40 in Limoges
- Return on 17 July 2024 at 06.05 from Limoges, arrive East Midlands around 06.40
- Coaches from Sheffield and from Limoges to Perigueux where French hosts collect guests; coaches between the concerts as necessary, costs shared between those using them
- Proposed concerts Sarlat le Canada Fri 12 July (combined), Perigueux du théâtre de l'Odyssée Sat 14 July (combined), Thu 11 July St Astier (SPC), Mon 15 July Excideuil (SPC)
- No details about costs yet, but costs will be shared by those going on the trip

### **Chris Wiltshire is holding a Schubertathon 8 and 9 June 2024**

Chris Wiltshire, husband of former member Pat Wiltshire who died in June 2023, is holding a fund-raising event in the summer; this is forward notice so you can plan your diaries. Chris will play all Schuberts' completed piano sonatas plus his two sets of Impromptus and the *Moments Musicaux*, in a Schubertathon from 8am to 8pm on June 8th and June 9th at his home, 27 Hallam Grange Rise, to raise money for Alzheimers Research. The sound of his Steinway grand will easily reach people at the bottom of the garden through the open doors. He's chosen Schubert as it's the last music to which Pat responded despite her dementia – she smiled and said "That was lovely". June 8th will be the second anniversary of her death. The event will be

supported by the Alzheimers Society and will all be informal with refreshments provided - a bit like a garden party with live classical music!

### **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](#) ((user name member password M4hler8D@rius22)).

- Saturday 16 March 2024 7.30pm, Victoria Hall, self-funded; works by Gustav Holst and Imogen Holst, Britten and Grace Williams. Compulsory piano rehearsal Tue 12 March 2024. Compulsory on-the-day rehearsal to be confirmed but probably around 14.00 to 17.00
- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 from 10.30 to 12.30, 2pm to 4pm, performance 5-6pm – Come and Sing event, Parts 1 and 2 of Haydn's *Creation* at the Upper Chapel on Norfolk Street, S1 2JD. Compulsory piano rehearsal yet to be confirmed. VIPs from Bochum and City Council will attend.
- Friday 21 June 2024 Mozart *Requiem*, Cadogan Hall London. Free coach provided. Compulsory piano rehearsal Tue 18 June 2024
- Saturday 22 June 2024 7pm Mozart Requiem Sheffield City Hall with Flanders Symphony Orchestra. SICS\*. Also, Mozart *Don Giovanni*: Overture and Beethoven Symphony No.8. Compulsory piano rehearsal Tue 18 June 2024. Compulsory on-the-day rehearsal to be confirmed but probably 14.00 to 17.00
- Sunday 23 June 2024 Mozart *Requiem*, Usher Hall Edinburgh. Free coach provided. Compulsory piano rehearsal Tue 18 June 2024
- *10 to 17 July 2024 Faure Requiem, mini tour in France (elective)*
- Friday 21 to Sunday 23 March 2025 – Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend. SPC may be involved in collaboration with other CS members on the Sunday, but not in the finale.

\*SICS = concert is part of the Sheffield International Concert Season

### **Darius concerts**

Mon 5 Feb 1.15pm Leeds cathedral, Mon 26 Feb 1.15 Leeds cathedral, Mon 8 April 1.15pm Leeds cathedral, Sat 27 April 6pm Bridlington Priory

Full list and details on Darius's website at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/index.html>

### **Reminder - Volunteer needed to collect post occasionally**

Jim Monach needs the help of someone who is in the town centre regularly during office hours to collect the occasional post from our post office box on Rockingham Lane. This only arises every month or so. Have a word with Jim if you may be able to help. Many thanks.

### **Reminder - VIP guests for our Come and Sing *Creation***

Oberbürgermeister Thomas Eiskirch, along with Thomas Wollinger, Vice President Innovation, Bochum Economic Development and Jagoda Josch, International Relations will be visiting Sheffield for three days over the first weekend in May. The Lord Mayor of Sheffield is keen to give them a great insight into what makes Sheffield great whilst they are here and the visitors will be attending our short *Creation* concert at 5pm following the Come and Sing day in the Upper Chapel on Saturday 4 May 2024. For further information on the Oberbürgermeister, please see <https://www.bochum.de/Referat-fuer-politische-Gremien-Buergerbeteiligung-und-Kommunikation/Oberbuergermeister-und-Verwaltungsvorstand/Oberbuergermeister-Thomas-Eiskirch> and <http://www.thomas-eiskirch.de/#1>.

### **Singing opportunities**

- David Clover Festival of Singing 2024. Festival Weekend 2 – 4 February 2024. Full details: [www.davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk](http://www.davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk)
- Free event – sing Matthew Coleridge's Requiem in Wakefield cathedral on Saturday 10 February. For further information and to book see <https://matthewcoleridge.com/wakefield/>
- Come and Sing Choral day Saturday 24 February 2024, 10.30 to 17.00 in St Mark's Broomhill, led by experienced conductor Martin Lightowler. Choral pieces by John Tavener, William Byrd, Josef Rheinberger, Cesar Franck & Ola Gjeilo, informal sing for family and friends at the end. For good sight readers or folk who will prepare beforehand. For more info or to book, text Martin on 07948 407 209, or email [martinlightowler@gmail.com](mailto:martinlightowler@gmail.com).
- Bakewell Choral Society will be performing Messiah in Bakewell Parish Church on Saturday 16th March. Rehearsals from Monday 8 January at Bakewell Methodist Church. New members very welcome. Guest singers may join for this one concert; £35 for new guests and £50 for guests who have sung with BCS before. If you are interested, please contact [bcsmembersec@gmail.com](mailto:bcsmembersec@gmail.com)
- Pennine Spring Music Festival 27 May to 1 June 2024. A week's singing in Heptonstall, Calderdale, including Lili Boulanger's *Hymne au Soleil* and Morten Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna*, Apply on-line at <http://www.penninespringmusic.co.uk/join-us/>. There are bursaries to help young singers to take part; email: [penninespringmusic@gmail.com](mailto:penninespringmusic@gmail.com) for details.

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](#) (user name member password M4hler8D@rius22). The latest version features our own Come and Sing concert in the Upper Chapel in May – thanks for arranging this John!

### **What's On**

Classical Sheffield's What's On page tells you which classical concerts are scheduled around Sheffield: <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/events>.

### **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](#) User name member password 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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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/>