

NEW / IMPORTANT ITEMS (scroll down for further details)

Sectional rehearsals postponed – everyone in Heeley Hall

No rehearsals 26 March or 2 April (Easter)

Rehearsal tracks for *Ave Maris Stella*

Volunteer soprano and alto soloists

Final call for programme advertisements or sponsorship

PLEASE publicise the concert (e-flyer attached)

Sad news – Pam Grayson

Don't forget to use special email to tell SPC about change of address, telephone or email (see bottom of every update)

Next rehearsal is on Tuesday 20 February 2024 at Birkdale School

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 13 February at 7pm, back at Birkdale School (map at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#)). **Sectional rehearsals are postponed, so everyone will be in the Heeley Hall.**

- 120 bus and 60, see <https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/>.
- Street parking unless arranged with Jim; restrictions end at 6.30pm. Take bikes into the hall.
- Access via Endcliffe Cres or Caxton Road (slightly longer walk). Once inside Endcliffe Cres gate, go through door straight ahead (see attached map).
- Please stack your own chair at the end - or get someone to do it for you.
- Toilets near the hall. Disabled access to Ladies only; please be mindful of the potential need of this facility - you may need to wait if it's in use.

Updated rehearsal notes and divisi for *Ave Maris Stella* are on the website **along with links to the *Ave Maris Stella* rehearsal tracks created by Georgina Hulse**, recordings for the pieces we are singing in March, and article about Britten's Rejoice in the Lamb, at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#).

Many thanks for your consideration regarding mobile 'phone interruptions and distractions. 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). In the meantime please note that **there will be no rehearsals on 26 March or 2 April, due to the Easter break.**

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.

Rehearsal tracks for *Ave Maris Stella*

The rehearsal tracks kindly put together by Education and Outreach Officer Georgina Hulse are on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the music](#). Grateful thanks to Georgina for creating these; please make full use of them to get to grips with this tricky work.

Volunteer soprano and alto soloists

Darius will hear the soprano and alto soloists after the rehearsal on Tuesday.

Music

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

Music folders with up-to-date logo 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.

Final call for programme advertisements or sponsorship

Members who run businesses are asked to consider advertising in the programme for the Britten concert in March; the programme will be given to all audience members. Fees: 1/4 page portrait black and white £20, 1/2 page landscape black and white £30, full page portrait black and white £50. Sponsorship costs £100 and includes company name and logo on the front plus a 1/2 page advert inside. Further details are on the Chorus website at [Hire Us / Advertising](#)

About 30 concert tickets sold – publicise using e-flyer (attached)

Only four weeks before the Victoria Hall concert in March – PLEASE spread the word to friends and family via social media using the attached e-flyer. Paper copies will be available next Tuesday, and an e-version of the flyer in the next update. Tickets on sale (no booking fee) at rehearsals, £18; pay in cash, by cheque or by card. Tickets available online (booking fee payable) at <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/599238#tickets> and on the door on the night. Note the on-the-day compulsory rehearsal is now confirmed - 14.30 to 17.30.

Tickets sold for the Come and Sing Creation remain at 9 'singer' tickets. Also 7 free tickets have been booked for the performance at 5pm – note that booking is essential even though tickets are free, as seats are limited and we have a VIP party attending. Tickets are available online via the Chorus website at <https://sheffieldphil.org/home/concerts/current-season/>.

Unfortunately we can't provide tickets for the Mozart *Requiem* concert at rehearsals, get these online via the Chorus website at <https://sheffieldphil.org/home/concerts/current-season/>. **Don't forget that people can book using the City Hall's group offer which is a substantial reduction – just £10 per ticket if 10 are booked as a group, no matter where they sit!**

Sad news – Pam Grayson

Pam Grayson, who was an alto in SPC for many years, has recently died. Pam was pleased that her final concert with SPC was Elijah, which she loved. Pam taught English at Sheffield Girls' High School and was involved in many aspects of the Methodist Church, including as a Local Preacher. She was in hospital before Christmas but went to live in Kent to be near her nieces, who cared for her until her death. If the funeral is in Sheffield there will be a note in a future 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](#) ((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 14.30 to 17.30.

- Saturday 4th 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)
- TO BE CONFIRMED: Friday 22 November 2024, concert at City Hall SICS*
- Saturday in December 2024, Christmas Carol Concert at City Hall SICS*
- Sunday 23 March 2025, final concert of the Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend, Young Composer Competition winner(s), two newly-commissioned works and Faure Requiem (self funded, part-sponsored).
- TO BE CONFIRMED: Sunday 8 June 2025 concert at City Hall SICS*

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

Reminder - Social Events Officer Helen Kirk is seeking ideas for social events

"Thank you to those of you who added comments to the Vision, Aims and Objectives at the Cheese and Wine Social. I want to address the request for more social events. At the moment the annual events we have are:

- *The post AGM Cheese and Wine Party.*
- *Sherry & mince pies in the interval of the Christmas Concert.*
- *A summer sing opportunity.*

Historically we have held quiz nights, talent evenings and larger Anniversary parties sometimes incorporating a short concert, dinner, and dancing.

For more regular opportunities to meet with members of the chorus, there are people who go to a pub after rehearsals. Since the move to Birkdale it may be a drive to the Frances Newton Wetherspoons pub, where a few stalwarts still meet, but there may be other more local pubs frequented which I do not know about.

***I would welcome any ideas for other events and especially for venues.** As I do not live in Sheffield my knowledge of appropriate venues is limited. Please email me (see bottom of each update) or speak to me in person with your suggestions, all ideas will be considered. Thank you, Helen"*

Reminder - 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 wand

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!

Darius concerts

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>

Singing opportunities

- 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 Taverner, 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.
- 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
- Bob Chilcott singing workshop on Saturday May 11th in Ilkley. Includes excerpts from *A Little Jazz Mass*, *The Bob Chilcott Songbook* and *Irish Blessing*. There's also the opportunity to join Cantores Olicanae for *A Little Jazz Mass* on Saturday June 15th at St Margaret's Church, Ilkley, 7.30pm. For details see <http://www.cantoresolicanae.org.uk>
- 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 for details.
- The Music Summer School and Festival (27th July to 10th August 2024) is offering £50 to any choir named, if booked before 1 March 2024. Courses available in choral singing, chamber choir, vocal ensembles, opera, song and much more. Tutors include Stile Antico, Andrew Griffiths, Anna Tilbrook, James Gilchrist, Dame Jane Glover, Ruby Hughes, Sarah Gabriel, Gavin Roberts, Pippa Dames Longworth. See www.mssf.org.uk 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 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

MD Darius Battiwalla DariusBattiwalla@sheffieldphil.org

Chair Jo Briddock chairman@sheffieldphil.org or JoanneBriddock@sheffieldphil.org

Vice Chair Steve Terry ViceChair@sheffieldphil.org or SteveTerry@sheffieldphil.org

Administrator Anne Adams administrator@sheffieldphil.org or AnneAdams@sheffieldphil.org

Membership Officer Marianne Grayson MarianneGrayson@sheffieldphil.org

Finance Officer Jane Parkin JaneParkin@sheffieldphil.org or accounts@sheffieldphil.org

Rehearsal and Events Officer Jim Monach JimMonach@sheffieldphil.org

New Members Officer Sally Turnbull SallyTurnbull@sheffieldphil.org

Social Events Officer Helen Kirk HelenKirk@sheffieldphil.org

Librarians Alan and Rosemary Anderson alananderson@sheffieldphil.org

Education & Outreach Officer Georgina Hulse GeorginaHulse@sheffieldphil.org

S1 Voice Rep Katrina Hulse KatrinaHulse@sheffieldphil.org

S1 Voice Rep Jacqui Amos JacquiAmos@sheffieldphil.org

S2 Voice Rep Els Pearse ElsPearse@sheffieldphil.org

A1 Voice Rep Nerissa Kisdon NerissaKisdon@sheffieldphil.org

A2 Voice Rep Jane Baker [Jane Baker@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:JaneBaker@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/>