

NEW / IMPORTANT ITEMS (scroll down for further details)

- **TUESDAY'S REHEARSAL IS AT ST MARK'S, don't come before 18.35**
- **Come and Sing – arrangements (also on website)**
- **Plea for support for soprano abseiling for St Luke's – including on the day!**
- **Exciting opportunity for amateur pianists**
- **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 30 April 2024 at St Mark's

The next rehearsal is on Tuesday 30 April 2024 at St Mark's Church, Broomfield Road, S10 2SE. Please make sure you close all doors behind you as you pass through them, to keep the heat in. Church accessible from 6.35pm (PLEASE DON'T COME EARLIER), 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.

You will find recordings and links to voice part rehearsal tracks for Haydn's *Creation* and the Mozart *Requiem* on the Chorus website 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.

Arrangements for the Come and Sing event (attachment)

These arrangements are attached for printing out; they are also on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#)

The Chorus is providing coffee and cakes to participants (and Chorus members of course) during the morning break, and **your help is needed for this. Please bring a cake or some buns with you on the day and give them to Helen and her team in the Hollis Room (see below) for serving during the break.** Many thanks!

Schedule for the day

09.30 Helpers arrive to set up
10.00 Registration PLEASE BRING YOUR CHORUS CARD
10.30 Workshop starts
SHORT BREAK - tea, coffee, juice and cake will be served
12.30 LUNCH (own packed lunch on site or eat in city centre)
14.00 Workshop re-commences
15.45 Workshop ends. Please leave quietly as soloists will rehearse and only have 30 mins
16.15 Soloist rehearsal ends
16.30 Doors open
16.45 VIPs arrive
17.00 Free performance for family and friends
18.00 Approximate end

Programme Haydn Creation Parts One and Two

Venue is the Upper Chapel on Norfolk Street.

Getting there - see <https://www.upperchapelsheffield.org.uk/visiting/location.php> and <https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/> for public transport

Ground floor plan - see <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=LV2RcDRa65U>

Parking - Street or municipal parking only.

Entry and initial registration - Enter via the main front door at 10.00 and register at the desk inside.

Seating plan copies may be available on the day; please follow verbal instructions from Jim and /or his helpers. Visiting singers will be seated among the Chorus. Please be welcoming and invite visitors to sit with you - remember this is primarily and recruitment event. Firsts and seconds of each voice part can sit anywhere as there are no splits.

Signing out and back in - Please sign out if you leave to have tea after the rehearsal, and back in again on your return. Visiting singers will need to do the same.

Dress code - Chorus dress not required, come in your own clothes

Bags - please keep these to a minimum and store them at your seat

Toilets - are on the left through the left-hand door at the front

Disabled toilet - through the same door, turn left, then right and it's on the right.

No after-shave or perfume to avoid breathing problems for others, especially those with allergies.

Seating for the performance Visiting singers will be seated among the Chorus; audience members will be seated at the back and sides. There are just 20 seats available upstairs and we will only use them if we can't fit everyone in downstairs. There are reserved seats for the VIPs from Bochum and for a party with a guide dog.

Performance interval - no interval; only Parts 1 and 2 will be sung.

Refreshment break - hot and cold drinks and cake will be served in the Hollis Room. Go through the left door at the front of the chapel, the Hollis Room is straight ahead. It's quite small so watch where the queue is and try not to get in the way! Please leave the room via the door to the right of the hatch, turn left at the end and the chapel entrance will be on your right.

Music – no need for black folders but please bring a pencil

Stage etiquette - informal; follow Darius' lead on the day

Health and safety information:

- Do not attend if you have symptoms of Covid, flu, a heavy cold or uncontrollable cough
- Please take your own drinks but don't take them on stage during the concert
- Don't use breakable vessels; store and carry hot drinks safely
- Keep belongings out of thoroughfares, especially in restricted areas
- Take care when using stairs and steps
- Please stick to the prescribed areas so that we don't compromise the Upper Chapel's fire safety arrangements.

Evacuation instructions

In the event of an emergency, leave in an orderly fashion via the nearest exit, either the doors back through the foyer, or the left and right doors at the front. If using the left door at the front, go straight ahead, turn right just past the toilets, and exit to the courtyard via a door on your left. If using the right door go forward into the Vestry, leave via the exit door on the left; the door into the courtyard will be on your right. Move through the courtyard round to the front and assemble by the gates and/or on the street. The Chorus register will be used to check that there is no-one left in the building.

Ticket sales etc We have sold around 70 'singer' tickets and distributed about 60 free audience tickets. A number of singer tickets will be available at rehearsal on Tuesday priced

£20, and some audience tickets. Tickets are also available online via the Chorus website at <https://sheffieldphil.org/home/concerts/current-season/>.

Information about the day is at <https://sheffieldphil.org/home/concerts/current-season> and <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/events/2024/come-and-sing-haydns-creation>. The main aim of the workshop is to attract new members, so please tell anyone you know who loves singing and would like to see what it's like rehearsing and performing with a large high-quality choir.

Plea for support for soprano abseiling for St Luke's – including on the day!

Rachel Mallaband (2nd Sop) is going to be abseiling from the Owen Building in Sheffield in aid of St Luke's Hospice on the morning of Sat 11th May. She has admitted this is the first time she has ever abseiled and that she is genuinely quite terrified! But it's all in a aid of an excellent cause, so any financial support via the link [Rachel Mallaband is fundraising for St Luke's - Sheffield's Hospice \(justgiving.com\)](#) or moral support at the foot of the building on the day - or both! - would be hugely appreciated! Many thanks.

Rehearsal schedule

Darius has uploaded the rehearsal schedule for the rest of the year to his website at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>, there's also a link from the Chorus website at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#) (user name member password M4hler8D@rius22).

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.

Exciting opportunity for amateur pianists

Channel 4 is in the early stages of casting for the third series of 'The Piano', which celebrates amateur pianists and shows what the instrument means to them. The first series aired last year and the second is being filmed at the moment. The series celebrates the nation's love for the piano and saw amateur players perform at a number of train stations across the UK, before a select group were picked to play a final concert at the Royal Festival Hall in London. Read more at <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/the-piano>.

They are looking for people of all ages and backgrounds who may be interested to take part in the next series and are keen to hear from all sorts of performers, from classical pianists, to singers and even comedians who use the piano in their act. If interested contact Maisie Mitchell, Senior Casting Assistant Producer, 020 7067 4820 or maisie.mitchell@loveproductions.co.uk

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 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. No attendance requirement. VIPs from Bochum and City Council will attend. Details on our website <https://sheffieldphil.org/home/concerts/current-season>

- Friday 21 June 2024 Mozart *Requiem*, Cadogan Hall London. Free coaches provided. Compulsory piano rehearsal Tue 18 June 2024. On-the-day tutti rehearsal 15.30 to 17.30 Cadogan Hall London.
- 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.
- Sunday 23 June 2024 Mozart *Requiem*, Usher Hall Edinburgh. Free coach provided. Compulsory piano rehearsal Tue 18 June 2024. Compulsory on-the-day rehearsal to be confirmed
- *11 to 17 July 2024 mini tour in France (elective)*. Rehearsals 25 June, 2 and 9 July 2024. Programme: *Faure Requiem*, Grieg: *Ave Maris Stella*, Esenvalds: *Evening* and *Amazing Grace*, Delius: *To be sung of a summer night on the water*, Coleridge Taylor: *Summer is gone* and *The Lee Shore*, Clara Schumann: *Abendfeier in Venedig*, Fanny Mendelssohn (Hensel): *Schone Fremde*, Reger: *Nachtlied*, Bruckner: Motets, Stanford; 3 motets. (recordings and rehearsal tracks for these works are on the Chorus website at <https://sheffieldphil.org/one-of-us/preparing-the-music/rehearsal-resources-from-previous-concerts/>)

2024-25

- Friday 15 November 2024, 7pm, concert with the Halle at City Hall SICS*
- Saturday 14 December 2024, 2.30pm, Christmas Carol Concert at City Hall SICS*
- *Sunday 15 December 2024 St Lukes carol Service (elective)*
- Sunday 23 March 2025, 7pm, St Marie's cathedral, final concert of the Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend: Young Composer Competition winner(s), two newly-commissioned works and *Faure Requiem* (self funded, part-sponsored).
- April / May – self funded concert of some kind
- Sunday 8 June 2025 7pm, concert with the Halle at City Hall SICS*

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

Darius concerts

- Monday 6 May, 11am Blackburn Cathedral
- [Sun 19 May 2024 3pm at St Mark's Church with Ensemble 360, Ella Taylor, Anna Huntley](#)

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

Reminder - Tax relief for choirs – please help if you can (attachment)

Making Music is campaigning to enable choirs to claim tax relief on their concerts, contacting ministers and civil servants about this. The proposal is to ask that 'voice' be recognised as one of the instruments eligible under the existing Orchestra Tax Relief scheme which already enables orchestras to claim back an average 23% of their concert and event costs. See the attached document for more detail; you can also [read our guidance on Orchestra Tax Relief](#), to understand more about this whole area.

Making Music is asking people to contact their current MP (these tax reliefs are applicable in all UK nations) and ask them to advocate for this change; MPs and election candidates listen to their voters, so do use the document to find out more and to lobby your MP if you can. The campaign is supported by a host of organisations and choirs including The Choir With No Name (CEO Kate Wareham – Towler from Sheffield), Music in the Round and Classical Sheffield.

Reminder - Chris Wiltshire's 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 when he will play all Schuberts' completed piano sonatas plus his two sets of Impromptus and the *Moments Musicaux*, 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 be informal with refreshments provided - a bit like a garden party with live classical music!

Singing opportunities

- David Clover Festival of Singing Workshop, Bents Green Methodist Church, Knowle Lane/Ringinglow Road, Sheffield S11, on Saturday 11 May 14.00 to 17.30. Cost £5. Aims to provide skills to improve singing technique and breathing and to give advice about keeping the voice healthy so people can continue singing for as long as possible. Open to all men and women, in particular those over 40. No individual/solo singing and no sight reading required. Register at <https://www.davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk/a-voice-for-life>
- 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.
- Join Sheffield Bach Society and Sheffield Oratorio Chorus in Brahms *Ein Deutsches Requiem* and *Schicksalslied* on Saturday 29 June, Victoria Hall, Norfolk Street, S1 2JB. Small charge for sopranos and altos; tenors and basses free through the Voice Exchange. Normally 60% attendance required, plus Saturday afternoon rehearsal, but fewer may be negotiated if you know the works well. If interested contact Marianne Grayson.
- 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).

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 chair@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 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/>

Anne Adams, BSc, MSc, CBIOL, FIFL, ALCM

Administrator, Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus <http://sheffieldphil.org/>

Trustee, Classical Sheffield <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/>

Social Secretary, Sheffield Bach Society <http://www.sheffieldbachchoir.org.uk/>

Member of Sheffield Lydian Singers <http://sheffieldlydian.org.uk/>

Sheffield Philharmonic Chorus - 2024 Royal Philharmonic Society Inspiration Award nominees - the BAFTAS of the classical music world!