

NEW / IMPORTANT ITEMS (scroll down for further details)

- **Next rehearsal 19 Nov Birkdale School (running order attached)**
- **Christmas Carol concert rehearsal attendance**
- **Important note re how to get in if you are late on Tuesdays (site map attached)**
- **Boulangier concert feedback**
- **Message from our President Rachel Copley**
- **Volunteers please - to act as our (rarely needed) First Aiders**
- **Volunteer Musician Wanted to Support People Seeking Sanctuary (attachment)**
- **PLEASE use the special email to tell SPC about change of address, telephone or email (see bottom of every update)**

Next rehearsal is on Tuesday 19 November 2024 at Birkdale School

The next rehearsal is on Tuesday 19 November at Birkdale School Sheffield. It might be chilly so wrap up well! We will rehearse the music for the Christmas Carol Concert so please bring your 100 Carols for Choirs (white book) or the older green and orange books which contain everything we are singing. The sheet music will be distributed so please bring £3 to cover printing of new carols, and the Barnsley Carol that was given out last week; copies will be available for those that weren't at last week's rehearsal. Our Librarians will also have a few copies of 100 Carols for Choirs for hire at £2 plus just four new copies for purchase, price £15 – first come first served. Correct change appreciated please.

The running order for the concert is attached. It's also on the website, along with provisional concert arrangements, at [Members Area / Concert Arrangements](#). Recordings of some of the carols will be available at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Preparing the Music](#)

Please return your Boulangier scores with marks erased – it takes our Librarians a week to rub out for those who don't do this, which is hardly fair for colleagues who are volunteers!

- For buses to Birkdale, see <https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/>.
- Street parking unless arranged with Jim; restrictions end 18.30. 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 map at [Members Area / Rehearsals](#)).
- Please stack your own chair at the end - or get someone to do it for you.
- Toilets in the foyer.

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.

Christmas Carol Concert rehearsal attendance. A gentle reminder that Darius prefers members to attend all rehearsals and that those who don't make at least 75% are rarely allowed to sing in the concert. This applies to the Christmas concert even though there are only four rehearsals in total, ie miss more than one and you won't be able to sing. In fact, BECAUSE there are only four plus a short on-the-day rehearsal, with some tricky pieces to learn for a concert that will be live streamed, Darius is very keen for folk to attend all four.

Important note if you are late on Tuesdays: SPC is now responsible for site security during our rehearsals, so the following procedure will apply from Tuesday onwards:

- Sally has kindly offered to guard the doors until 19.10; thank you Sally
- After that BOTH entry doors will be locked, and latecomers will need to use the emergency doors
- For access from 19.10 therefore, enter the car park from Endcliffe Crescent, go left up the ramp alongside the nearside of the Hall and through the fire door at the end on the right which will be opened as soon as the rehearsal permits. The map of the site is attached.

Boulangier Concert

Thank you to everyone who sang on Saturday – there were plenty in the audience and they seemed to enjoy it. The conductor was very pleased with how well we sang. The Artistic Director of the Halle was there with one of her team members and she was very impressed, as was Trisha Cooper. The Halle

Chorus members who sang with us really enjoyed it – thank you for making them feel so welcome; an example of some of their feedback is below.

Thank you to Alan and Rosemary, Marianne, Jim and Anne and their helpers for efficient planning and organisation, to Joe and Maggie for helping to prepare us and look after our voices, to the wonderful Rachel for exceptional accompaniment as always, and of course to Darius for pushing and stretching us with patience and encouragement – and for fantastic playing on Saturday of course!. We are so lucky to be able to work with such superb musicians.

“Just a note to say what a lovely occasion it was to join with the Sheffield Phil for the Boulanger and sing with my old friends again. I thought the Boulanger went really well, it was a great concert and particularly special with Darius's involvement. Thank you for making us all feel so welcome. I am also very impressed with how professional you have been with your interactions with us, especially commendable as it is all voluntary. Thanks again, Ruth” Ruth Pitman Jones, Halle Chorus

“A great evening, thank you for the experience of singing in Sheffield. It was great and lovely to meet such friendly people around me. Made me feel really welcome. Best wishes, Liz Lord” Halle Chorus

Not feedback, but a message sent by Nigel Gyte which I didn't read in time to share before the concert:

“I am very disappointed at not being around for the Boulanger Concert. Unfortunately, I will be in London. I would have loved to attend, especially to support Darius and the SPC. It's a fabulous programme and I am sure it will be a wonderful evening's entertainment. I watched your previous rehearsal that was put onto YouTube and was fascinated & impressed with how the whole process evolved. Rachel's accompaniment was beautiful. A joy to listen to! Please convey my love and best wishes to Darius and everyone at SPC Nigel X”

Message from our President Rachel Copley

“Dear Friends, Yet another memorable concert yesterday evening, and one that went the full gamut of emotions, from the poignant setting of the psalm, to the roof lifting moments of the Organ Symphony. It made all the rehearsals, and struggling with the French language, so very worthwhile, and has left lasting memories for me of a previously unknown work which has, over the last few weeks, grown in intensity and relevance on a personal level, and also on the situation in our world at the moment.

As always, huge thanks to Committee and helpers for all the arrangements, to Rachel for her magnificent accompaniment, and to 'our' Darius, for steering us through, and conveying just what Lili wanted to say, through her music. Really an evening to remember.

I will be missing for the next few weeks, and therefore not around for the Christmas music, but hope to return shortly, in a newer, slightly 'bionic' version! With my very best wishes, Rachel.”

Volunteers please - to act as our (very rarely needed) First Aiders

The Chorus needs two more volunteers to join soprano Imelda Murphy as our First Aider. Many thanks to soprano Els Pearse who is stepping down from this role after valuable service for the last few years. Volunteers would need to have an up-to-date qualification. It's worth stressing that although we must have someone willing to act in this role if the need arises, it has very rarely done so, thank goodness! Please see either Jo Briddock or Imelda Murphy if you are willing to take on this role. Thank you.

Volunteer Musician Wanted to Support People Seeking Sanctuary (attachment)

Deadline for applications Monday 16th December. The support group is looking for an experienced group worker who plays an easily portable instrument and is able to improvise, has a good knowledge of classical music and can spare 2 ½ - 2 ¾ hours per fortnight. The project aims to facilitate access to classical music for refugees, asylum-seekers and other vulnerable migrants. See the attached for further details, or email creativeconnectionssheffield@gmail.com

Subscription payments

Thanks to all who have paid and completed both membership form and the diversity survey.

Please pay asap if you still haven't - you don't want to risk not being able to sing in the Christmas concert, which is on the cards without a firm arrangement with Jane. The online form, with full details of how to pay, is at <https://forms.office.com/e/shkpt7HiNV> **PLEASE use the reference Family name and Chorus number eg parkin403**

If you're struggling to pay, please contact Jane on accounts@sheffieldphil.org.

At the end of the form, you are invited to complete a survey to show what our diversity profile looks like. Note that questions and responses are in a separate link and are anonymous, with 'prefer not to say' options. If you've paid but missed the survey and want to complete it, ask Marianne for the link.

Rehearsal schedule

Details are in Diary dates (below) and on the Chorus website at Members Area / Diary dates. Darius will upload the rehearsal schedule for the coming season in due course, 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).

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).

2024-25

- *Thursday 5 December 2024, 13.45 to 14.30. Carols at Bents Green School (elective). Georgina Hulse to conduct, Nigel Gyte to accompany.*
- Saturday 14 December 2024, 2.30pm, Christmas Carol Concert with Black Dyke Band, presenter Zeb Soanes, at City Hall SICS*. On-the-day rehearsal to be confirmed but probably 12.00 to 13.30.
- *Sunday 15 Dec 2024 St Lukes Carol Service (elective). Georgina Hulse to conduct*
- Sunday 23 March 2025, 8pm, St Marie's cathedral, final concert of the Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend: Young Composer Competition winner(s), three new works by composer Stephen Johnston (listed on our website), the Faure *Requiem* and possibly one other piece. Self funded, part-sponsored by Stephen Johnston. Compulsory conductor rehearsal on Tue 18 March 19.00 to 21.00 at St Marie's. On-the-day rehearsal in the Holden Hall next door to St Marie's, time to be arranged.
- Saturday 24 May 2025 – self funded Come and Sing in the Upper Chapel, English Anthems *Toward the Unknown Region* VW, *I Was Glad* and *Blest Pair Sirens* Parry and *Faire is the Heaven* Harris. 10.30 to 19.00. Darius conducting, Rachel Fright piano and an organist. Refreshments and cake at break time (choir donations).
- Sunday 8 June 2025 4pm, Haydn *Creation*, Matthew Hamilton and the Halle at City Hall SICS*. Compulsory conductor and on-the-day rehearsals to be arranged.

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

Darius concerts

This summer Darius played in the world premiere of James Wood's new work "*Tempestas in Memoriam*" alongside three other organists on four different organs in cathedrals in four nations. See YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-Vryei3sPI> (scroll to 15.15)

- Monday 11 November, 1.15pm Leeds, St Anne's Cathedral
- Monday 9 December, 1.15pm Leeds, St Anne's Cathedral

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

Reminder – Georgina's workshops

Georgina's pre-rehearsal workshops are in the Octagon Room 18.30 to 18.55. Contact her if interested, at georginahulse@sheffieldphil.org

- Autumn (six workshops) September 24th; October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29
- Spring (eight workshops) January 21 & 28; February 4, 11, 18 & 25; March 4 & 11
- Summer (four workshops) May 6, 13, 20 and 27

Rehearsal tracks from Choraline

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.

Singing opportunities

- **Sat 23rd November 2024 'Come and Sing' Handel's *Messiah*** with The Singers' Collective. St Oswald's Church, Bannerdale Road, Sheffield S7 2DL. Conductor: Rachel Atkinson Organist: Cory Lovell. Rehearsal from 15:00, performance at 18:30. Singers £10 to cover refreshments and music hire. Audience - pay as you feel donations. For more information and to register for the event email: thesingerscollective@hotmail.com
- **Monday 16 December 2024 Come and Sing Messiah** Sheffield Bach Choir invites people to Come and Sing Messiah at St James' Church Norton. Tickets £15 including mulled wine and mince pies. [BUY TICKETS ONLINE](#)
- **Sat 25 to 26 Jan 2025 – Mozart Mass in C minor** NTU Clifton NG11 Concert 1 Feb Albert Hall Nottingham. Scores and rehearsal tracks available; optional sectional rehearsals. See <https://www.music-for-everyone.org/event/nfc-singing-course-concert> .

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). **Note Haydn's Creation with CBSO on Sunday 2 Feb 2025.**

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 & Classical Sheffield websites/passwords, WhatsApp

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.

The Chorus WhatsApp group is at **SPC Social**.

A reminder of the Classical Sheffield Member's Area: <https://classicalsheffield.org.uk/about> ; the password is *moremusic*.

Contact emails

These are all listed on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Chorus Contacts](#)

MD Darius Battiwalla DariusBattiwalla@sheffieldphil.org

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

Vice Chair VACANCY

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

Member Rep on Committee: Patrick Callaghan PatrickCallaghan@sheffieldphil.org

Member Rep on Committee: Annie Park AnniePark@sheffieldphil.org

Member Rep on Committee: Jenny Swann JennySwann@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/>