

## NEW and/or IMPORTANT ITEMS (scroll down for further details)

- **Members Area: User Name *member* Password *M4hler8D@rius22***
- **PLEASE DON'T USE THE CAR PARK UNLESS ARRANGED WITH JIM**
- **Sectional rehearsals on Tue 18<sup>th</sup> – tenors and basses in the room behind the altar.**
- **Very sad news about bass Peter Miles**
- **Ticket sales – 23 (March concert) and 9 (Come and Sing – members don't need tickets!)**
- **Please promote March concert – e-flyer attached**
- **See Jim Monach if you need a chair for the March concert so he can organise this**
- **Organist wanted – see attached advert**
- **Voice for Life workshop Saturday 1 March 2025, £10**
- **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 18 February 2025 at St Andrew's Church Psalter Lane Sheffield**

REMINDER – PLEASE DON'T USE THE CAR PARK UNLESS YOU'VE ARRANGED IT WITH JIM MONACH. It's for our professionals and for those with mobility problems – don't squeeze them out!

Please bring your Fauré *Requiem* with bar numbers added, the Finzi, the three pieces by Stephen Johnson and the Young Composer winning work.

The rehearsal will include sectionals right from the start, with sopranos and altos in the church, tenors and basses in the room behind the altar – through the doors at the front of church, forwards along the corridor to the room at the end. Please follow instructions about where to go when you arrive on Tuesday.

Rehearsal notes are on the website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Prepare the Music](#). Please use them to mark up your copies with the instructions from Darius – and add bar numbers to your Fauré. This area of the website also has links to YouTube recordings of the Fauré and the Finzi, and mp3 practice files by voice part for the young composer work and two of the Stephen Johnson pieces.

Georgina's pre-rehearsal workshops – through the doors at the front of church, forwards along the corridor to the room at the end. All welcome. Contact Georgina if interested. January 21 & 28; February 4, 11, 18; March 4 & 11

Please note that the fine for non-return of music SPC has hired will be charged to those members whose music has not been returned, even if the member concerned passed their copy to a colleague to return in their absence. Sorry about this but non-returns continue to be an issue.

- For buses to St Andrew's, see <https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/>.
- Car parking spaces available **by arrangement with Jim Monach only**
- Street parking for everyone else. Take bikes into the foyer.
- Toilets at front of church, through doors on either side, follow signs. Accessible toilet in the foyer.

**All members are welcome to The Stag after rehearsal**, only a short walk from St Andrew's. New members are particularly welcome so come along for a drink and a good natter.

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.

**VERY SAD NEWS** Bass Peter Miles has sadly lost his fight with cancer and died at home on 13 February surrounded by his family. His funeral will be on Monday 10 March at 2pm at Hathersage Parish Church, followed by a burial for family and close friends. There will also be a social gathering, venue yet to be confirmed. We may well be asked to sing a piece at the funeral, so please save the date if you knew Peter and would like to sing – probably one of the Rachmaninov Vespers.

**Ticket sales update – 23 (March concert) and 9 (Come and Sing)**

- March concert: We have sold 23 tickets with just five weeks to go, so please share the social media posts that have started to appear and promote it to your friends and family via the attached e-flyer. Paper flyers will be available soon but, in the meantime, do share posts on Facebook and Instagram. The winners of the young composer competition will be announced in about a weeks' time, and will be used to promote the concert, so please look out for that. The shortlist was announced on our website at <https://sheffieldphil.org/young-composer-competition-2024-25/>
- Come and Sing: We have sold 8 visiting singers tickets and 1 free audience ticket. **SPC members do not need tickets**, only *visiting* singers need them (and people who come to the freebie at 6pm).

### Organist wanted – see attached advert

The Church of All Saints in Youlgreave are looking for an organist; see and share the attached advert.

### Reminder – seating for the March concert

Members who need to sit down during the concert on 23 March will be provided with chairs at the side of the performance area, close to the Chorus. The rest of the choir will need to stand throughout the performance – not too onerous as each half is relatively short. **Please see Jim Monach if you would like a chair to be provided for you.** Arrangements for the concert day have been on the website since New Year's Day, see [Members Area / Concert arrangements](#)

### Rehearsal schedule

Details are in Diary dates (below) and on the Chorus website at [Members Area / Diary dates](#).

Darius has uploaded the rehearsal schedule

at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>, there's also a link from the members area of the [Chorus website \(in Rehearsals\)](#).

### 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 and beyond

- Sunday 23 March 2025, 8pm, St Marie's cathedral, final concert of the Classical Sheffield Festival Weekend: Young Composer Competition winner, three new works by composer Stephen Johnson (listed on our website), the Fauré *Requiem* and Finzi's *Full Final Sacrifice*. Organist Neil Taylor. Self-funded, part-sponsored by Stephen Johnson. Tickets now available online via SPC website. 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, 5.30 to 7.30pm.
- 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* 10.30 to 19.00. Darius conducting, Rachel Fright piano and Peter Shepherd organist. Refreshments and cake at break time (choir donations). Tickets for visiting singers now available online via SPC website (**Singer tickets not needed for SPC members**). Audience tickets are restricted due to the size of the Chorus – FREE but tickets are essential, get these online as well.
- Sunday 8 June 2025 4pm, Haydn *Creation*, Matthew Hamilton and the Hallé at City Hall SICS\*.  
Compulsory conductor and on-the-day rehearsals to be confirmed.
- Friday 9 May 2026, Crookes Social Club, SPC Ceilidh plus Pie and Pea supper, details to follow.

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

### Darius concerts

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

### Reminder – Georgina's workshops

Georgina's pre-rehearsal workshops are in the Octagon Room 18.30 to 18.55. Contact her if interested.

- Autumn (six workshops) September 24<sup>th</sup>; October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29
- Spring (seven workshops) January 21 & 28; February 4, 11, 18; 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

- **Voice for Life workshop on Saturday, 1st March 2025** at Holy Trinity Church, Grove Road, Sheffield, S7 2HB, 2 to 5pm. Cost £10, refreshments available. Led by Marcus Farnsworth, Head of Vocal Studies at Chetham's School of Music and a director of choirs. Focus will be on voice production through exercises and working through pieces of music. To book a place see [davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk](http://davidclover-festivalofsinging.org.uk).

This and others are on the Chorus website, along with a list of wider singing opportunities compiled by Phil Harrison and provided by John Morgan, in the [Members Area, Information, Singing opportunities](#).

### What's On

Classical Sheffield's website lists all upcoming local concerts: <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 & 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 Chorus WhatsApp group is at **SPC Social**. Please don't post personal or music-related details about other SPC members or ex-members without their permission!

### Contact emails

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

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 unsubscribe by contacting [leave@membmail.sheffieldphil.org](mailto:leave@membmail.sheffieldphil.org). The full Privacy Policy is on the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/about-us/privacy-policy/>