

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

- **Members Area: User Name *member* Password *M4hler8D@rius22***
- **Rehearsal is in St Andrew's Church Psalter Lane**
- **Return music with markings erased please**
- **Come a bit early to collect new music £5 + £2**
- **Ticket sales – 25 (Come Sing)**
- **Faure Concert**
- **Classical Sheffield festival update**
- **Darius concert next Monday – tribute to Simon Lindley**
- **Provisional dates for 2025-26**
- **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 25 March 2025 at St Andrew's Church Psalter Lane Sheffield

Please return your music **with markings rubbed out please!** 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. Apologies about this but non-returns continue to be an issue – and most are handed in two or three years later!

Music for both the Come Sing and *Creation* will be handed out, as many of the rehearsals will be split between the two starting next week (see schedule <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>). Apologies but there will therefore need to be **two hire fees totalling £7** - £5 for *Creation* (unless you have your own in which case please bring it) plus £2 for the Come Sing pieces. Do please try to come a bit early and to bring the correct change. Many thanks.

Rehearsal times back to normal, ie will end at 21.00.

Rehearsal notes, recordings and rehearsal tracks for the Come Sing and Haydn's *Creation* are on the website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Prepare the Music](#).

- 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.

Ticket sales update – 25 (Come and Sing)

- **Come and Sing:** We have already sold 25 visiting singer tickets of 80 available, and 4 of 20 free audience tickets. SPC members do not need tickets, only *visiting* singers need them (and people who come to the freebie at 6pm).
- **Creation** – ticket information not yet available

Faure concert

Many thanks to everyone who sang on Sunday evening, for great singing in the end, and for fantastic patience and support in spite of some quite serious challenges. Special thanks to those who helped move the audience queue from one entrance to the other (!), checked people in, fed soloists, found last-minute copies, showed people to their seats, gave out programmes, moved pews, found chairs and spaces for wheelchairs, chatted to young composers, calmed presenters, tidied up at the end, responded to last-minute challenges, stood without complaint, helped with dog or whatever – a great team effort.

The audience clearly loved the concert, and the atmosphere was fantastic – lively, friendly, inclusive, supportive and appreciative. The young composers all had a really super evening, the culture people on the council were impressed, the Master Cutler's beams almost blinded the front row and Darius was pleased – it all went very well indeed.

Special thanks to our wonderful step-up soloists – great job! Thanks to Darius for helping us tackle the more challenging works on the programme (!) and for being encouraging and positive throughout despite some hairy moments along the way - and for conducting from such a dizzy height without falling off!. Thanks to Rachel and Maggie for their part in preparing us, to alto Kathy and ex-alto Susie for their lovely poems - and to alto Kirsty for doing such a great job on her first ever concert programme (there's obviously something about altos!).

If you left a ladies black T-shirt in the Houlden Hall, Anne Adams has it - see her on Tuesday.

Classical Sheffield festival

Many thanks to everyone who supported the festival in some way, whether by taking part or by volunteering or attending some of the many events. Our members performed at various events on all three days eg Choir Crawl, Sinsontes, Octogenesis, Lydian Singers, Sounds of Heaven, Carmen and of course our finale concert last night. Attendances were high, appreciation very evident and there was a real buzz in the city centre, especially on Saturday.

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

- 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 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 Halle at City Hall SICS*. Compulsory conductor and on-the-day rehearsals to be confirmed.

2025-26 – some are provisional dates only at this stage (see below)

- Saturday 1 November 2025, St Marie's Cathedral – date confirmed
- Tuesday 9 December 2025, City Hall – to be confirmed
- Saturday 13 December 2025, City Hall - to be confirmed (but very likely)
- Thursday 6 February 2026, City Hall – to be confirmed
- Saturday in April – Come and Sing event – to be confirmed
- *Friday 9 May 2026, Crookes Social Club, SPC Ceilidh plus Pie and Pea supper, date confirmed*
- Sunday 7 June 2026, City Hall – to be confirmed (but very likely)

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

Darius concerts

Next Monday's lunchtime concert in Leeds is in memory of Dr Simon Lindley, who recently passed away. Full list and details on Darius's website at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/concerts/concerts-2025.html>

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 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

All up-coming opportunities for singing locally 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 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. The full Privacy Policy is on the Chorus website at <http://sheffieldphil.org/about-us/privacy-policy/>