

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

- **Members Area: User Name *member* Password *M4hler8D@rius22***
- **Please check draft singing list**
- **Peter Miles funeral – details, timings, car parking, map etc**
- **Call for adverts for March concert programme**
- **Ticket sales – 76 (March concert) and 16 (Come Sing – members don't need tickets!)**
- **Please promote March concert**
- **Pie and Pea Supper Sunday 9 March costs £13.50 not £17!**
- **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 04 March 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 Faure *Requiem* with bar numbers added, the Finzi, the three pieces by Stephen Johnson, the Young Composer winning work and your Rachmaninov if you're singing at Peter Miles' funeral, as there will be a short rehearsal after the main session 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 Faure. This area of the website also has links to YouTube recordings of the Faure and the Finzi, and mp3 practise files by voice part for the young composer work and two of the Stephen Johnson pieces.

Georgina's pre-rehearsal workshop will be in the room in front of the altar.

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 – and most are handed in two or three years later!

- 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.

Draft Singing list – please check

The draft singing list can be found on the website at [Members Area / Weekly Update / Draft Singing List](#). Please check it carefully and tell Marianne as soon as possible if your name isn't there and you believe it should be, or you are on the list yet you aren't able to sing at the concert.

Here's a gentle reminder that you should tell Marianne as soon as you know that you won't be able to sing in a concert, eg because of a work commitment or a booked holiday etc, so that she can maintain an accurate singing list for each concert. This enables Darius to make arrangements if there is likely to be an issue with balance, or with our ability to sing works with split voice parts. It also prevents Marianne from having to make repeat edits of the singing list for the programme before it goes to the printers. Many thanks for your support in reducing un-necessary work.

Peter Miles funeral – important message from Sally Turnbull

"Thank you for signing up to sing at Peter's funeral.

- *Date, time, venue: 2 pm Monday 10th March, Hathersage Church, rehearsal/warm up 1pm*

- We can use the Bell Room by the church from 1 pm. There is a door opposite straight into the church where we will be seated (very tightly!) in the Lady Chapel. We could have a seating trial and warm up/run through in the church but be out again by 1.30, or stay quietly in our seats, as congregation may arrive early.
- There is one hymn, Praise My Soul the King of Heaven and the words will be on the order of service.
- We will sing the Rachmaninov Number 6 Bogoroditse after a moment of quiet reflection during the service. We won't leave our places, and I think sight lines will be very tricky, so we will have to listen very carefully to each other, as I suspect only those near the front will see conductor Rachel.
- The family have included us in an invitation to tea in the Memorial Hall by the swimming pool from 3 pm, after the burial (family and close friends only). **However you must let them know if you plan to come by emailing hannahmileswatson@gmail.com.** This is Hannah, one of Peter's 3 daughters.
- Access... tricky! **Please don't park at the church.** It is a very tight little carpark for family use. You can drive up to drop people off who are less mobile as it is a steep climb and a narrow lane. Also **PLEASE don't park in local shops/pubs car parks.** Public parking is in Oddfellow's Road and there MAY be a shuttle bus from there. If the family do organise a shuttle, I will let you know. The Memorial Hall is also there.
- However, I suggest coming by train. There is one from Sheffield at 12.14, arriving at 12.30, perfect for climbing the hill for 1 o'clock meeting!
- The walking route to the church and the village carpark and Memorial Hall are on the attached map.

Thank you" Sally Turnbull

Call for adverts for March concert programme

A substantial concert programme will be available free of charge on 23 March, providing a good opportunity to advertise your company or one you know about. If you'd like to place an advert in the concert programme, please send the copy to Kirsty Christer as soon as possible. Prices are £20 for a ¼ page, £30 for half a page and £50 for a full page, for further details including copy requirements see our website at [Hire Us / Advertising](#)

Ticket sales update – 76 (March concert) and 16 (Come and Sing)

- **March concert:** We have sold 76 tickets with just three weeks to go, so please share the social media posts and promote it to your friends and family via the attached e-flyer. Please share paper flyers and posts on Facebook and Instagram. The winners of the young composer competition have been announced (see below and <https://sheffieldphil.org/young-composer-competition-2024-25/>) and will be used to promote the concert, so please look out for social media posts etc. Stephen Johnson will be presenting the Young Composer Competition prizes and introducing that section of the concert. The Master Cutler and consort will be at the concert along with guests from the council.
- **Come and Sing:** We have sold 16 visiting singer 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).

Pie and Pea Supper, Auction and Quiz Sunday 9 March – cost £13.50 (not £17) or £5

- The groups presenting Carmen during the Classical Sheffield festival are having a pie and pea supper at Crookes Social Club on Sunday March 9th, 17.30-21.00. There will be a skills auction and a music-related quiz. A few members have already booked tickets for this, which should be a fun evening. Tickets £5 (no food) or £13.50 (not £17 as previously reported), see <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/sheffieldphilharmonicorchestra/1541888> To offer a skill to be auctioned, contact Jane Groves for a form grovesjane@googlemail.com

Reminder - clarification re seating for the March concert – see Jim if this is you

Members who need to sit down during the concert on 23 March will be provided with chairs at the side of the performance area. This will be close to the Chorus – close enough to sing alongside colleagues from the same voice part. We know that for some folk the chair needs to be next to where they are standing. This is fine, we will sort it one way or another - we don't want to exclude any singer who may need to sit down! 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 Faure *Requiem* and Finzi's *Full Final Sacrifice*. Organist Neil Taylor. Self-funded, part-sponsored by Stephen Johnson, who will present the competition prizes. 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* 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.
- 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 - Young Composer Competition winner announced

The winner is Thomas Stearn aged 30, who is doing a PhD in Vocal Composition at the university. He is thrilled to bits, is coming to the concert and may come to one of the later rehearsals. Second is Cassie White aged 27, who composes video game music for a firm on the outskirts of Sheffield. Third is Reuben Tozer-Loft, who was born and raised in Sheffield but currently lives in Bologna where he's studying for a master's degree in composition. Cerys Owen (21) and James Thomas (25) are Highly Commended. Read more about the winners on the website at <https://sheffieldphil.org/young-composer-competition-2024-25/>

Reminder - help a student by taking a quick survey about choral singing

Sara Szabo is running a study for her Psychology degree with the Open University, investigating the factors that motivate people to join and participate in adult auditioned symphony choirs. Sara sings with an adult auditioned symphony choir in the UK and works as a mental health professional. Data collected will be anonymous. All participants will need to be over the age of 18. The survey should take about 10 minutes to complete. Link to the online survey:

https://openss.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aat9e0i34CeJbw

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/>