

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

- **Members Area: User Name *member* Password *M4hler8D@rius22***
- **Final chance to check the singing list!**
- **Final call for adverts for March concert programme**
- **Peter Miles funeral arrangements**
- **Ticket sales – 106 (March concert) and 17 (Come Sing)**
- **Provisional dates for 2025-26**
- **Wed 16 April - singing for peace at RAF Lakenheath (in Singing Opportunities)**
- **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 11 March 2025 at St Andrew's Church Psalter Lane Sheffield

Rehearsal will go on to 9.15 for the next two Tuesdays. Faure, Finzi, Stephen Johnson x3, Thomas Stearn's *for music like the sea (Curlew at Redmires)*.

Note that next Tuesday's rehearsal, on 18 March, will be in St Marie's cathedral on Norfolk Row, access from 6.30pm.

Rehearsal notes, recordings and rehearsal tracks are on the website at [Members Area / Rehearsals / Prepare the Music](#). Grateful thanks to Alan Lacey who has add a set of tracks for This Going Hence with individual voice parts alongside all parts, so we can hear how our part fits into the whole.

Georgina's final pre-rehearsal workshop for this term 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.

Final chance to check the draft Singing list – please check

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

Gentle reminder to 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, so Darius can make arrangements if numbers cause an issue, and Marianne won't have to make repeat edits before the list goes to the printers. Many thanks for your support in this.

Final call for adverts for March concert programme

If you'd like to place an advert in the concert programme, please send the copy to Kirsty Christer as soon as possible. KirstyChrister@sheffieldphil.org Prices £20 for 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](#)

Peter Miles funeral – arrangements

- 2 pm Monday 10th March, Hathersage Church, rehearsal/warm up 1pm
- Use the Bell Room by the church from 1 pm, with a door opposite straight into the church.

- We will sit (very tightly!) in the Lady Chapel.
- Meet 1pm in church for a very short seating trial and warm up / run through – but we've to be out by 1.30 (or stay quietly in our seats while congregation arrives).
- One hymn, *Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*, words on order of service.
- We'll sing Rachmaninov Number 6 *Bogoroditse* after a moment of quiet reflection during the service.
- We'll sing from our seats, sight lines may be very tricky, so listen very carefully to one other.
- Tea in the Memorial Hall (see map) by the swimming pool from 3 pm, after the burial (family and close friends only), for those who have emailed Hannah (one of Peter's 3 daughters) to say they are coming hannahmileswatson@gmail.com.
- **Please don't park at the church unless you are less mobile and so have permission. Please don't park in local shop or pub car parks.** You can drive up to drop people off and then park elsewhere, as it is a steep climb and a narrow lane.
- Public parking is in Oddfellow's Road - no shuttle bus – see map for walking route.
- There is a train from Sheffield at 12.14, arriving at 12.30, perfect for climbing the hill for 1pm.
- The walking route to the church, village carpark and Memorial Hall are on the map on our website.
- Wear your own clothes; Peter liked a snazzy cravat so use that as a guide.

Ticket sales update – 106 (March concert) and 17 (Come and Sing)

- **March concert:** We have sold 106 tickets in a venue with a capacity of 400 and just two weeks to go, so please share social media posts and promote to your friends and family via the attached e-flyer. Stephen Johnson will be presenting the competition prizes and introducing that section of the concert. The Master Cutler and consort will be at the concert along with Philip Wilby, members of the Jockel family and guests from the council.
- **Come and Sing:** We have sold 17 visiting singer tickets and 2 free audience ticket. SPC members do not need tickets, only *visiting* singers need them (and people who come to the freebie at 6pm).

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 - 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 are at [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

- 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.

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

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 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

Wednesday 16 April 2025 - singing for peace at RAF Lakenheath

This will be part of a 10-day protest against the possible re-siting of US nuclear weapons at the base. A group is going from Sheffield, leaving Paternoster Row (outside Showroom cinema) at 7.00 am, returning in the evening. There are a few places left on the minibus. Cost £50 but if you cannot afford that and would like to go, bursary help is available. If interested, contact Rachel Rowlands, First Alto, rachelrow@yahoo.co.uk

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/>