

No rehearsal until Tue 9 September 2025 at St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church 7-9pm

If you didn't return your copy of *Creation* after the concert today, please rub out all markings and make arrangements to return it to our fantastic librarians Alan and Rosemary Anderson. AlanAnderson@sheffieldphil.org Unless you have a re-audition of course – return your copies on the day. Very best wishes and good luck to you all.

Creation concert

More feedback will be shared when it's received, just to say thank you to those who organised everything so efficiently, and to those who sang – it was truly joyous and brought the season to a close marvellously well. Janet Bower emailed to say that she and Gerard thought it was wonderful, as did Nicky Power. Maggie sent all good wishes shortly before the concert, which she was sure would go well. Thanks to Rachel and Maggie for helping to prepare us, and of course to Darius for his meticulously detailed and encouraging leadership.

Message from alto Sally Knight

Creation was Sally's final performance with the Chorus, sung from her grandfather's score which was bought in 1920 for one shilling and sixpence. Those privileged to share a dressing room with her can report that she most definitely enjoyed the concert enormously. She found it a little emotional after so many happy years singing with the Chorus but was very pleased to have such a marvellous work to sing on the City Hall stage one final time. Sally said to say thank you from the bottom of her heart and that she has been overwhelmed by everyone's good wishes and kind words, and with the marvellous card and gifts.

"Wonderful and lasting friendships, and great kindnesses shown to me, will also be part of my gratitude for my years in the SPC. I send my love, very best wishes for the future and thanks to you all." As she said after the performance of *Creation*, it seemed fitting for the final words she sang with us to be "Amen – so be it".

Jim Monach's funeral

The funeral will be on Friday, 27th June, at 11.30 at Upper Chapel, Norfolk St, S1 2JD, and afterwards at Crookes Working Men's club, Mulehouse Rd, S10 1TD. The dress code is "bright", especially purple as this was Jim's favourite colour. The music will be:

- Fauré *Requiem* - Introit - Kyrie, Darius to accompany and Georgina to conduct
- Rachmaninov Vespers No.6 conducted by Darius
- John Rutter - *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, conducted by Georgina and accompanied by Darius.
- *Hail Smiling Morn*, conducted by Darius

There will just be one rehearsal – a short one in the Upper Chapel at 10am on the day. So, we are asking that those singing should already know the music and bring their own copies of the Fauré and the Rachmaninov or borrow them from others. Copies of these two will be provided for those who let Marianne know either at the *Creation* concert or by email. Copies of the Rutter and *Hail Smiling Morn* will be provided for everyone.

Please let Marianne know if you know the works and would like to sing at the funeral, or if you signed up but are not confident that you know (or can learn) the music.

Lord Mayor to launch the Bochum exhibition

The council is going to town in terms of celebrating the link with Bochum and is planning to have the Lord Mayor open the exhibition on 21 July 2025. The Chorus has been invited to send a few representatives to this event and to make a short speech about our collaboration with the Bochum choir. It seems fitting for the members who contributed material to attend on our behalf, and to share their experience of singing with the Bochum choir in their fantastic symphony hall.

A reminder that the exhibition will be in the main reading room on the ground floor of the Central Library from 21 July 2025 and will run for four weeks. Do try to see it if you can!

Chatsworth sing

Thank you to those who have signed up to sing, and to Georgina Hulse who will conduct. We could still do with a few tenors!!! The music will be available at the first of two rehearsals, on Tuesday 1 and 8 July 2025 at St Andrews. The music list is on our website at [Members Area / Electives](#)

Summer Sing in Charlotte's Garden

Soprano Charlotte Liu has kindly agreed to open up her wonderful garden again for a Summer Sing. Georgina Hulse will lead, and we'll probably sing some of the works being sung at Chatsworth, and maybe a few more. It'll be a Bring and Share again, and there's a large poly tunnel if it rains. Further details, including the date, as soon as we know them.

Chris Wiltshire piano fund-raiser 12 and 13 July 2025

Chris Wiltshire's next fund-raising effort will be on July 12th and 13th when he will be joined by Jonathan Lazell to play ALL of Schubert's Piano Duets. Among many famous composers who wrote duets (Beethoven, Brahms, Dvorak ...), Schubert led the way with over fifty Marches, Polonaises, Rondos, Variations and superb Sonatas. Chris is the widow of ex-member Pat, who sang with the second sopranos for many years, and he and Jonathan are aiming to beat the £3,000 which was raised for Alzheimer's Research last year. The two-day event will take place at Chris's home – further information to follow.

Sad news of a former member

Former member Joy Trickett, who left in 1999, passed away peacefully at Chapel Lodge where she has been cared for over the last four years. Although it is a good few years since she sang with us, she often talked about the Chorus and her memories of concerts. Her funeral is to be at Grenoside Crematorium on Tuesday 17 June at 2.30pm. Members who knew Joy are welcome to attend.

FaceNoise Choral Foundation Retreat 14 to 17 August 2025

New organisation FaceNoise, run by Tim Peters (ex-conductor of Octogenesis among other things) is organising a summer retreat from 14 to 17 August, in Hope Valley. There will be intensive rehearsal sessions leading up to a final performance, as well as pub socials, group meals, and a guided sound walk in the hills. Music includes *Earth Seen From Above* – Meredith Monk, *Earth Song* – Frank Ticheli, *I Am a Cloud* – Majel Connery, *Ave Generosa & O Pastor Animarum* – Hildegard von Bingen, *The Hills* – John Ireland, *The Bluebird* with Soundscape – Charles Villiers Stanford and *Le Chant des Oiseaux* – Clément Janequin. You need to be comfortable reading music. To keep costs manageable, the retreat will be DIY-style, ie participants arrange their own lodging and meals. For more details and to sign up, please visit our website: <https://www.facenoise.org/facenoise-singers>

Reminder - music left in the Upper Chapel

Four booklets were left in the Chapel – *Toward the Unknown Region*, *Faire is the Heaven*, *Blest Pair of Sirens* and *I was glad*. If these were your copies, please make arrangements to collect them from the Upper Chapel, from the caretaker Patrick Tel 0114 272 8174, Mobile: 07808 064 693.

Reminder - Volunteers to sing with CBSO Chorus in France and Monaco

- The CBSO Chorus are going on tour in July and are looking for additional singers to join them. They are particularly looking for tenors and basses, but Sopranos and Altos can register interest as well.
- The work is Paul McCartney's *Liverpool Oratorio* with Orchestre Philharmonique De Monte-Carlo, conducted by Kazuki Yamada. The first performance will be at the Roman

Theatre of Orange as part of the Chorégies d'Orange festival in Orange, France; and the second performance will take place at the Grimaldi Forum, Monaco.

- Rehearsals will be at the CBSO Centre, Birmingham on Saturday 21 June 2025 (10:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 16:30) AND Sunday 22 June 2025 (14:30 – 17:00 and 18:00 – 20:30)
- Tuesday 22 July 2025 – London Heathrow > Marseille Provence Airport, Dep. 18.00 Arr. 21.00 British Airways
- Monday 28 July 2025 – Nice-Cote d'Azur Airport > London Heathrow, Dep. 14.10 Arr. 15.20, British Airways
- Coach travel from Birmingham to London Heathrow will be provided but volunteers are also welcome to make their own way to Heathrow – and indeed to make their own way to France.
- A twin hotel room, shared with another member of the chorus, will be provided, along with breakfast in the following locations: Night 1 – Avignon, Nights 2 – 5 – Orange, Night 6 – Nice
- There is a cost of £650 per member for those travelling with the CBSO Chorus. This includes flights, coach transfers, accommodation (shared twin room) and breakfast at the hotel.
- If you decide to make your own journey to France and wish to stay in the hotel with the main group in a twin room, there will be no fee to pay to CBSO.
- If you are interested please contact Alexandra Parker, Chorus Manager, 0121 616 6509 or 07528 752 873 or by email at aparker@cbso.co.uk. All arrangements will be between individual volunteers and the CBSO Chorus.

Please note that, as was discovered last year, an initial positive response from the CBSO is no guarantee of a final place, as the number of volunteers they will end up needing depends on the numbers of their Chorus who drop out.

Rehearsal schedule

Full schedule for next season will be uploaded to his website as soon as Darius has sorted it; this may take a while as one or two details haven't yet been confirmed. When ready it will be available at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/currentschedule.pdf>, there's also a link from the members area of the [Chorus website \(in Rehearsals\)](#). See also Diary dates (below and Chorus website at [Members Area / Diary dates](#))

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 Chorus website as soon as they become available so that members can plan ahead, at [Members Area / Diary dates](#)

2024-25

- *Saturday 12 July 2025 Chatsworth, 13.00 Elective event. Free garden ticket per person who signs up. Georgina Hulse will conduct.*

2025-26 – all but the Come Sing date now confirmed (see below)

- Saturday 1 November 2025, St Marie's Cathedral, organ 150th anniversary concert. Jonathan Dove *Seek Him that maketh the Seven Stars*, Cassie White (second prize winner in the Young Composer Competition) *for music like the sea*, Stanford *Blue Bird*, organ solo (Darius), Coleridge Taylor *Lea Shore & Summer is Gone*, Balfour Gardiner *Evening Hymn* INTERVAL Lili Boulanger *Hymne au Soleil*, Durufle motets, organ solo, Jean Langlais *Messe Solennelle* (double organ). Soloists from choir. Organists: Neil Taylor, James Mitchell and Darius. There will be seating for the choir when we're not singing (and for those who need it on the altar).
- Tuesday 9 December 2025, City Hall. Halle orchestra live accompaniment to big-screen showing of the film "Home Alone"; we'll sing the main theme and the in-film carols

- Saturday 13 December 2025, 30, City Hall (SICS) Carol concert with Black Dyke Band, BBC presenter Josie D'Arby, programme to include a carol composed by Rachel Fright
- *Sunday 14 December 2025, 2pm cathedral, St Luke's carol service – date confirmed*
- Friday 6 February 2026, 19.00, City Hall (SICS) Arvo Part *Lament* with Manchester Camerata
- Saturday in April/May – Come and Sing event – date 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, 16.00 (SICS) *Elijah* with Halle conducted by Matthew Hamilton

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

Darius concerts

See Darius's website at <http://www.dariusbattiwalla.com/concerts/concerts-2025.html>

Reminder – what to do if locked out of the website

If you are unfortunate enough to be locked out of the website (usually due to typing in the wrong password three times), rest assured – it is set such that you can try again after just 5 minutes! The user name and password are at the top of every weekly update, including the short version that goes out by email.

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 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 read it on the website at [Members Area / Weekly Updates](#).

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 at [Members Area / Chorus Contacts](#)