

## **Next rehearsal Tue 07 Oct 2025 – staggered start and end times**

Our next rehearsal is on Tuesday 07 October 2025 in St Andrew's Psalter Lane Church, from 7pm to 8.30pm to allow time for the AGM. This always takes just 30 minutes and is followed by a 'thank you and goodbye' for tenor Donald Watts so do please try to stay; he has been a member for an amazing 58 years so deserves a great send-off. We will all then enjoy cheese and wine - and a rare opportunity to have a good natter!

Our soon-to-be Concert Planning Officer alto Ros Hobson has very kindly produced a set of rehearsal tracks (notes only) for the Cassie White piece, see Chorus website (link below).

Georgina's singing workshop will go ahead but with a bit of tweaking – turn up at 6.30 as usual to start, and to see how she will organise it for each voice part. It's for help with choral singing techniques, including sight singing, and to prepare for up-coming concerts; content can be tailored to suit those who sign up. All welcome, including people who are trying us out. From 18.30 in the back room at St Andrew's Psalter Lane church.

The programme for the first concert is listed on our website at [Sheffieldphil.org / Current season](https://www.sheffieldphil.org.uk/CurrentSeason), with links to rehearsal tracks and recordings of most of the music including *for music like the sea* at [Members Area / Preparing the music](#)

## **Please do not park on Cherry Tree Drive**

There is virtually no car parking at the church itself, but there is plenty of street parking (see attached map). **PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON CHERRY TREE DRIVE.** We have had vociferous complaints about this in the past and it would be great for them not to start again! Members with mobility issues can apply for a space in the small car park by arrangement. For access by public transport see <https://www.travelsouthyorkshire.com/>.

## **Member Area password has changed**

Unfortunately last week's SPC update found it's way onto Google and of course it has the Member Area password at the top, so Matthew has had to change it. He's added proper password protection to the Member Area landing page and we will only share it via email from now on, ie the version of the update uploaded to the Members Area will not include the password. Please don't share the update email with anyone outside the Chorus. The password will also be displayed on the sign-in table at rehearsals.

## **Staggered start times on Tuesday 14 October 2025**

Our rehearsal on Tuesday 14 October will have staggered start times, with tenors and basses 18.45 to 20.15 and sopranos and altos 19.15 to 21.15, to enable a lower voice sectional at the start and an upper voice sectional at the end.

## **Urgent – we need a Secretary and a Tenor Voice Rep**

From Tuesday onwards we will have no Secretary as Anne Adams will step down at the AGM. See [Members Area / Chorus Organisation](#) for details of the much-reduced role – the page shows what has already been done for this year. If you think you could take on the role please contact any member of the committee as soon as possible.

We also need a Tenor Voice Rep – any volunteers from among the tenors please?

## **Concert tickets – please promote and sell! (attachment)**

Tickets for the concert on 1 November are now available online via the Concerts page of our website at [Concerts / Current Season](#) or via [WeGotTickets](#). Please share the links with work colleagues, friends and family etc. Please also share the attached e-flyer by email or your social media accounts – and be sure to share and like the posts that our Marketing & Publicity Officer Kirsty Christer is busy posting on a regular basis. This extends the reach to your followers and beyond. Kirsty will have paper flyers on Tuesday so please take a bundle and distribute them as widely as you can. We need to sell 200 tickets for this concert in order

to break even, so there's a lot to do in just a few weeks – and it's going to sound fantastic!  
Many thanks.

### **Membership Survey**

Many thanks to everyone who have responded to the membership survey – over 75% of the Chorus, so the views of the majority of the choir have been captured and will now be analysed. The outcome will be shared with the Chorus as soon as they are ready. Many thanks to everyone for this magnificent response.

### **Invitation to sing with Joe Banerjee - Thu 20 Nov from 17:30 in Orchard Square**

The square's festive gathering and lights switch on, with mince pies, mulled wine and a festive selection of songs. If interested in joining please email Rose Wilcox at [classicalsheffieldcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:classicalsheffieldcoordinator@gmail.com) by **Friday 17th October** with your name, preferred voice part and whether available for a short rehearsal on **Friday 7th November**.

### **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, 7:30 pm at St Augustine's Church, Brocco Bank, S11 8RQ**

Sheffield Chamber Choir sing a selection of choral favourites, in support of fundraising to rebuild the church's pipe organ. Conducted by Robert Webb with organist Adam Heron (organ scholar Coventry Cathedral). Come and enjoy an evening of magnificent choral music to fill your soul, and support the rebuilding of the 1899 Albert Keates organ, thought to be the largest surviving unmodified instrument by this renowned Sheffield maker. The programme includes a number of pieces that Philharmonic Chorus have performed, including *I was glad* (Parry) and *Bogoroditsye Dyevo* from Rachmaninov Vespers.

Tickets £10, with donations invited towards the organ rebuild. More information, including the full programme, and booking details, at <https://www.facebook.com/ShefChambChoir>

### **Outcome of research into singing and urinary incontinence (attachment)**

A while ago the update included a request for people to respond to a survey about singing and urinary incontinence to which some members may have responded. The results are attached.

### **Reminder - an evening with Sam West Wed 8 Oct 2025 19.00 for 19.45**

Jane Monach invites us to “**An evening in the company of Samuel West**”, in Crookes Social Club on Wednesday 8th October, doors open 7pm for a 7:45pm start. Tickets £20, from <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-evening-in-the-company-of-samuel-west-tickets-1643876521929?aff=oddtcreator>

### **Reminder - 'The Choral' - film at the Showroom Sun 12 Oct 2025**

Join other members to see 'The Choral' at the Showroom Sun 12 Oct 2025 at 15.30. Book your own ticket, meet at the Showroom. The film, written by Alan Bennet, stars Ralph Fiennes, Roger Allam and Mark Addy. Set in Yorkshire, it follows members of the local choral society which recruits a group of teenagers for a performance of Gerontius. See <https://showroomcinema.org.uk/film/lff-the-choral>

### **Rehearsal schedule**

Darius has completed the rehearsal schedule for this season, see his website <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 [Members Area / Diary dates](#))

### **Georgina's workshops**

Below are the dates for the coming season; email [GeorginaHulse@sheffieldphil.org](mailto:GeorginaHulse@sheffieldphil.org)

- Sep 16, 23 & 30, Oct 7, 14 & 21, Nov 4, 11, 18 & 25
- Feb 10, 17 & 24, Mar 3, 10 & 17, Apr 14, 21 & 28, May 5

## Diary dates (dates in italics are voluntary electives; **attendance expected at all others**)

Confirmed concert, piano and tutti rehearsal dates, times and locations, are posted on the Chorus website as soon as they become available, at [Members Area / Diary dates](#)

**2025-26** – all seven official season dates now confirmed (see below) and on our website at <https://sheffieldphil.org/home/concerts/current-season/>

- Saturday 1 November 2025, 19.30, St Marie's Cathedral, organ 150th anniversary concert. Soloists from choir. Organists Neil Taylor and James Mitchell. There will be seating for the choir when we're not singing (and for those who need it on the altar). Piano rehearsal at St Andrew's the Tuesday before, on-the-day rehearsal 14.00 to 17.30.
- Tuesday 9 December 2025, 19.30, 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. **On-the-day rehearsal 16.00 to 17.00 immediately following the orchestral rehearsal.**
- Saturday 13 December 2025, 14.30, City Hall (SICS) Carol concert with Black Dyke Band, BBC presenter Josie D'Arby, programme to include a carol composed by Rachel Fright. Carol concert running order is at [Concert Arrangements](#)
- *Sunday 14 December 2025, 14.00 cathedral, St Luke's carol service – date confirmed*
- Friday 6 February 2026, 19.00, City Hall (SICS) Arvo Part *Adam's Lament* with Manchester Camerata. Compulsory conductor piano rehearsal Tue 27 Jan 2026
- Saturday 21 March 2026 – Come and Sing event all day – Vivaldi *Gloria* plus others
- *Friday 8 May 2026, Crookes Social Club, SPC Ceilidh & Pie and Pea supper*
- Saturday 16 May 2026, 19.30, cathedral, Last Night of the Proms with Brigantes orchestra conducted by Quentin Clare. Planets, *Blest Pair of Sirens*, *Rule Britannia* etc.
- 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.

## 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 – new version on our website

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](#).

- **Invitation to sing *Messiah* in Cutler's Hall with Sheffield Bach Choir Mon 1 Dec 7pm** Sheffield Bach Choir conductor Philip Collin invites anyone who would like to take part to drop him a line at [philipajcollin@gmail.com](mailto:philipajcollin@gmail.com). "*I obviously need to keep an eye on balance so can't promise that everyone can join but there will be availability in all voice parts. You would need to be able to attend the two Mon rehearsals preceding (7.30-9.30 at Cemetery Road Baptist Church). The performance is at Cutlers Hall, 7pm. It would be fantastic if some of you could join us. Thank you and best wishes, Philip*". No charge.

- **Come and Sing *Messiah* in Sheffield Cathedral Sat 22 Nov 2025** Sheffield Cathedral Choir is hosting a Come and Sing *Messiah* event on Sat 22 Nov 2025. Morning workshop with conductor Tom Daggett, afternoon rehearsal with choir and orchestra and evening concert at 7.30 pm. Singer tickets £25 to support the cathedral's School Singing Programme. Details & registration at [Come and Sing Messiah](#)

### **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](#)

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/>