

Who are the Workshops For?

Everyone who is Passionate about Choir Leading & Singing Choral Music. It will meet the needs of people searching for deeper perspectives on voicework, choir leading, and choral singing, whether at an amateur, or a professional level, including:

- ♦ Community ♦ World Music & Gospel Choirs ♦ Children's & Youth Choirs
- ♦ Male & Upper Voice Choirs ♦ Choral Societies ♦ Chamber Choirs ♦ Church Choirs
- ♦ Barbershop Singers and ♦ Seniors & Inter-generational Choirs.

Testimonials

Michael's courses on 'How to Make your Choir Sound Great' and 'The Art of Song Teaching' were inspirational, truly enlightening and eye-opening and have had a huge influence on my approach to my choir (now 90-strong). I make use of the techniques I learned from Michael throughout our rehearsals every single week and these have had a real impact on the ethos of the choir and its successful development.

Helen Eccleston - Director of Abingdon Music Centre

What is unique about Michael's work is his knack of opening people's minds to enable them to make music in ways they never thought possible.

Whether you are a chamber choir, a choral society, or a community choir, Michael can take you to new places and give you new experiences in singing which will change your life.

Mike Brewer, author of 'Kick Start & Fine-Tune Your Choir' & 'Choral Warm-Ups'

The course gave me the background and courage to be out there and to start teaching singing. Without your inspirational methods I would not have done this.

Mikal Nielsen - author of 'The Heart of Your Voice, You too can Sing!'

Course Leader

Michael Deason-Barrow (GRSM, ARCM) - Director of Tonalis - is an inspirational choir trainer and a master singing teacher who runs courses all over the world. He has a wide background as a performer, and regularly gives voice masterclasses in conservatoires. Michael has conducted at the celebrated '3 Choirs Festival' in Gloucester Cathedral and also works with community choirs and children's groups. He is recognised for being that rare exponent in music - an expert with a universal attitude.

N.B. Michael's new books on 'Creating Choral Excellence' (Vol. 1 for Choir Singers and Vol. 2 for Choir Leaders) will be available at our course book shop.

Choose Your Workshop

You can choose between: i) coming to the **WHOLE COURSE** or ii) booking into the **INDIVIDUAL WORKSHOP(S)** of your choice.

N.B. INDIVIDUAL SINGING LESSONS will also be available from a Tonalis trained voice teacher for £25.

Creating Choral Excellence

NEW HORIZONS for Choir Leaders and Choir Singers A TREASURE TROVE OF NEW IDEAS

Take the Whole Course
or come to Individual Workshops

AUGUST 20th - 21st

- Sing Freedom - How to make your Choir Sound Great & • New Warm-ups for Choirs

AUGUST 22nd

- Tuning In - Questions of Intonation & Blend

AUGUST 23rd

- Explore New Multi-sensory Song Teaching Methods

AUGUST 24th - 25th • The Art of Choral Conducting

Tonalis

Course Leader: Michael Deason-Barrow
VENUE - The Field Centre, nr. Nailsworth, GLOS
Enquiries: Tel: 01666-890460 / info@tonalismusic.co.uk

Creating Choral Excellence

This illuminating series of workshops offers you the opportunity to discover an uplifting vision of choir leading, voicework, and choral singing.

It's a MUST-DO course for

• choir leaders • song circle leaders • section leaders & • choir singers
and for everyone who is interested in:
learning, improving, or expanding their choir leading / choral singing skills-
whether you're starting out,
or whether you're an experienced conductor looking for new perspectives.

It invites you to:

DISCOVER A NEW WORLD OF EXPANDED MUSICAL HORIZONS

and will provide you with

a TREASURE TROVE OF NEW IDEAS TO ENRICH & EXTEND CHORAL SINGING
distilled from years of Tonalis' work with choirs of all ages and types, e.g.

- children's & youth choirs • church choirs • community choirs • gospel groups
- male & upper voice choirs • barbershop singers • chamber choirs • choral societies
and • seniors & inter-generational choirs.

A key reason we are offering this course is because many people often find themselves leading choirs without having received much help regarding:

- SONG TEACHING • CHORAL CONDUCTING • VOCAL EDUCATION OR • REHEARSAL TECHNIQUES, etc..

You'll find Tonalis' Choir Training is strongly practical
& informed by all the latest research. It will also be uplifting and life enhancing.

Above all, you'll find the skills you learn on these workshops
will have such an Extraordinary Effect on Your Choir that
you'll immediately SEE and HEAR the BENEFITS.

So if you want to:

- develop your choir leading skills and choir singing
 - practise your new skills within a supportive environment
- and • explore all the myriad questions involved in **CREATING CHORAL EXCELLENCE**
so that you can make the informed choices that will help you create wonderful choirs,

THEN THIS COURSE IS FOR YOU!

Workshop Themes

> Workshop 1 (August 20th - 21st)

Sing Freedom - How to Make Your Choir Sound Great Group Voice Technique for Choirs

Tonalis Choir Leader and Choral Singing Courses offer you the chance to work with a master singing teacher on vocal skills development and learn how to help your singers sing all those high notes and long phrases with a great range of dynamics, etc.

Using Tonalis' innovative **GROUP CHORAL VOICE TECHNIQUES**

(not the voice techniques conventionally used to train solo singers),
you'll be enabled to make the informed choices to help your choir sound great.

Along the way, you'll also have the chance to learn:

- SPECIAL SONGS** that you can use as warm-ups for a choir's vocal development.
- TONALIS' INNOVATIVE 'BRIDGE' EXERCISES**
These help choirs develop their vocal skills whilst they're simultaneously learning songs.
- HOW TO OPEN DOORS INTO DIFFERENT VOCAL STYLES** so you can help your singers access the appropriate resonance needed for each different type of music.

New Choral Warm Ups for Choirs

When the • Body • Voice • Listening • Musicianship
• Imagination and • Community of choirs are warmed up,
then choirs are ready to sing.

In my constant search for choral excellence I've therefore created
energising forms of warm-ups to help choirs make glorious music.

*So come and explore these new forms of warm ups and also learn
how to design warm-ups that are tailored to create a connection to the music that succeeds
them through focussing on its specific vocal, stylistic and musical requirements.*

> Workshop 2 (August 22)

Tuning In

Questions of Intonation and Choral Blend

2 key challenges all choir leaders face are:

- how to improve **INTONATION** in order to transform flat/sharp singing,
- and ii) how to achieve a good **BLEND** of voices.

So come and explore all the reasons poor tuning and a lack of blend occurs and
learn **MASTER STRATEGIES** and **INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS** to help choirs tune up
their sense of intonation, improve their blend, and become harmonic instruments.

> Workshop 3 (August 23rd)

New Multi-Sensory Song Teaching Methods

Here's a key belief that underlies all my teaching.

I believe that the more senses you can involve in song teaching the better your singers will learn the music.

Consequently, a unique feature of this workshop is the balance of

- Aural, Kinaesthetic, Visual & Creative Methods

you'll encounter to help singers learn songs and improve your teaching of all those challenging rhythms, metres, intervals, and harmonies

- from offbeat rhythms to chromatic inflections.

In particular, this workshop will explore

Innovative AURAL TEACHING Methods.

Plus discover • New Ideas for Teaching Parts Quickly

e.g. how to: i) get the choir into singing the harmonies immediately, and
ii) keep each section of the choir (S.A.T.B.) involved all the time
(rather than waiting around whilst other parts are being taught/helped).

- A New Form of Notation to Help Aural Learners

> Workshop 4 (August 24th - 25th)

The Art of Choir Conducting - New Perspectives

This innovative will workshop provide you with the exciting opportunity to learn how to use gestures to shape the sound you want to draw from your choir, so that each gesture communicates the essence of the music you're conducting.

In particular this workshop will explore:

i) a Practical and Inspiring Guide to

ALL the CORE COMPONENTS of CHORAL CONDUCTING

e.g. how to: • establish a beat and tempo • give cues, cut-offs and sectional entrances

- show different metres (including Eastern European-type additive metres)
- cue offbeat entrances and • vary dynamics and articulation, etc.

ii) the Links Between Conducting Gestures and Singing Voices

i.e. how conducting can display clear/unclear intentions
and communicate both helpful and negative messages to singers' voices.

iii) The Differences between Metric Conducting (used with music readers)
and Figural (Expressive) Conducting (often used with aural learners).

ALONG THE WAY WE'LL ALSO EXPLORE:

- The Issue of Male Choir Leaders teaching Women's Voices (& vice versa)
 - New Ways for helping singers get into Part Songs
 - How to develop the Choir Leader's Ear & much more . . .

APPLICATION FORM - Creating Choral Excellence

Please complete and send with a non-refundable £40 Deposit/Admin. fee payable to 'Tonalis' at:-

4 Castle Farm Close, Leighterton, Glos. GL8 8UY, England

or pay into the Tonalis account: Sort Code 30-92-06, Account # 00807093.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ email: _____

Do you require accommodation? Yes ☐ *A list of local hosts and B&Bs will be sent to you.* No ☐

I am applying for: ☐ Sing Freedom (2 days) ☐ Tuning In (1 day)

☐ Multi-sensory Song Teaching (1 day) ☐ The Art of Choir Conducting (2 days)

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Meals: Lunches of 'soup & salad' available for £4/lunch, when pre-booked.

Times: The course begins (20th) at 11:30am and finishes at 7pm.

Every subsequent day starts at 10am and ends at 6pm. The 25th will end at 4:30pm.

A Registration Letter - including Travel Information, Accommodation List, Times, etc.
will be sent on receipt of the Application Form and Deposit.

FEES

1 Day: £50 2 Days: £77 (by June 1st) £85 (thereafter)

4 Days: £150 (by May 20th) £158 (by July 1st) £168 (thereafter)

Whole Course: £215 (by May 20th) £225 (by July 1st) £235 (thereafter)

Concessions (for 6 days): £200 for Full-time Students, O.A.P.s & People on Income Support
(with evidence) when booked by June 1st.

Work Scholarship Fee (for 6 days): £155 A LIMITED number of Work Scholarships are
available to students & the unwaged. (Please check availability & apply with evidence.)

VENUE

'The Field Centre' is a unique venue with its central glass-domed teaching space, glorious organic architecture, lovely dining room and stunning views over the Cotswold countryside.

Here's the website for you to see for yourself . www.fieldcentre.org.uk