

Who are the Workshops For?

These 2 workshops are essential for song leaders in choirs, circles of song & schools, and will explore all the myriad questions involved in these themes.

They will meet the needs of people searching for deeper perspectives on choir leading, whether with community choirs, or with amateur and professional groups.

N.B. Participants are welcome to come to both days, or to attend just one of the workshops.

Workshop Leader

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

Testimonial

Whether you are a professional ensemble, a choral society, or a new community group, Michael can give you new experiences in choral singing which will change your life.

Mike Brewer, OBE - Author of 'Kick Start Your Choir' & 'Choral Warm-Ups'.

FEES for the Weekend: £74 (by Aug. 15th) **£80** (by Oct. 1st) **£85** (thereafter)

FEES for 1 Day: £44 (by Aug. 15th) **£50** (by Oct. 1st) **£55** (thereafter)

Concessions: £65 for students, OAPs, & people on income support by **Sept. 1st**

Couples & Group Bookings (3+): £60 / £65 / £70 (see date deadlines above)

Work Scholarship for whole weekend attendance only: **£55** (please enquire for details)

Times: 10am - 5:30pm Saturday 10am - 5:30pm Sunday

Meals: Bring & Share Lunches or local cafés. Tea & Coffee will be provided.

A Registration Letter incl. travel directions will be sent on receipt of your application.

TONALIS, 4 Castle Farm Close, Leighterton, GLOS, GL8 8UY

APPLICATION FORM - 'Tuning Up & Helping Uncertain Singers'

Please complete & send to the above address with your cheque payable to - 'Tonalis.'

Name: _____ email: _____

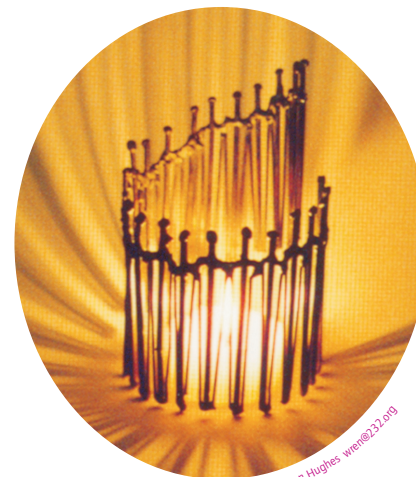
Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____

I am booking for both days Saturday 19th Sunday 20th

2 Inspiring Workshops For Choir Leaders



WORKSHOP 1 Tuning Up

Explore NEW WARM-UPS
For Choirs and Singers
Get the • Voice • Body • Listening
• Creativity and • Community
ready for vibrant singing

Sat. OCTOBER 19th

WORKSHOP 2 Helping Uncertain Singers

Learn exciting new methods to help Uncertain Singers
transform PITCH MATCHING Challenges
so they can enjoy a Lifelong Love of Singing

Sun. OCTOBER 20th 2013

Tonalis

*Michael Deason-Barrow is one of the finest voice coaches in the world.
Mikal Nielsen - author of 'The Heart of Your Voice, You too can Sing!'*

Workshop Leader: Michael Deason-Barrow

VENUE - Tonalis Music Centre, Stroud, GLOS.

Enquiries: Tel: 01666-890460 / info@tonalismusic.co.uk

1) Tuning Up - Choral Warm-ups

Vocal and choral warm-ups for some singers have a controversial reputation, but what they give - when taught well - cannot be overestimated.

In my constant search for vocal and choral excellence, I have created new forms of warm-ups to get the whole person - Body-Mind-Soul-and-Spirit - ready to sing and make music. My basic premise is, 'that when the body, breath, voices, listening, creativity and the community of the choir are energised, then the choir is ready to sing.'

Warm-ups benefit rehearsals (and practice) in numerous practical ways.

- 1) They transfer attention from the sometimes stressful and dulling aspects of our daily life and help shed the tensions of the day (e.g. via voice movement exercises).
- 2) They help transfer the voice from its normal speaking mode to that needed for singing.
- 3) They build a repertoire of techniques choir leaders can quickly refer to and draw on to help voices, tuning and listening meet the requirements of each piece.

This workshop will explore how to:

- **ENERGISE THE BODY** to make it ready for singing via Tonalis 'Voice Movement Techniques'
- **WARM-UP ALL THE COMPONENTS OF THE SINGING VOICE** via the use of core vocal exercises that will • expand the range and dynamics of the voice • enliven the resonance and the palette of vocal colours and • free the larynx, tongue, lips and jaw from tensions that interfere with singers' vocal freedom, etc.
- **ENERGISE THE BREATHING**. This is important because when breathing muscles are sluggish then singers are not ready for vocalising
- **WARM-UP THE EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE** of a choir (including the use of confidence boosting strategies and 'inner game of music' methods)
- **WARM-UP MUSICALLY and ENERGISE A CHOIRS' HEARING**, via great games such as 'The Lost Chord' and 'Harmony Tag', and via improvisations on different musical elements, etc.
- **AWAKEN A CHOIR'S CREATIVITY and IMAGINATION** via inspiring **CHORAL IMPROVISATIONS** with intriguing names such as 'the energy ball', 'tone journey' and 'don't drop the drone'. (In addition, we'll explore how to improvise on the elements of music found in each piece in order to help singers get inside each composition.)
- **WARM-UP THE CHOIR-AS-COMMUNITY** so that choirs learn to work as a team through using musical 'circle games' and community building improvisations.

In addition, this workshop will demonstrate:

- how to design warm-ups that are tailored to create a connection to the music that succeeds them through focussing on its specific vocal and stylistic requirements.

2) How to Help Uncertain Singers

Choir leaders frequently meet people who label themselves as 'tone-deaf', 'groaners', or as 'someone who can't hold a tune'. We long to help them so that they can participate in the joy of choral singing, but the means whereby to achieve this transformation are not so clear for most people.

On this workshop we'll therefore explore all the reasons why people regard themselves as 'Can't Sing Singers'.

Above all, 'How to Help Uncertain Singers' will introduce you to **ALL THE LATEST RESEARCH IN THIS FIELD** and provide you with **EXCITING INNOVATIVE METHODS FOR HELPING UNCERTAIN SINGERS** so that you can help 'Can't Sing Singers' transform any problems they experience with pitch matching and any lack of vocal confidence they may have.

In particular, this workshop will explore:

- WHAT'S INVOLVED IN PITCH MATCHING**
(e.g. • listening • control of the voice • reproduction of the desired pitch and • memory)
- ALL THE MAJOR FACTORS THAT CAUSE PITCH MATCHING CHALLENGES, i.e.**
 - **Inappropriate VOCAL Use** (e.g. many people's voices get trapped in their speaking register so that the vocal folds do not adjust their length as the pitch rises). To work with this I will explore with you games that involve gliding the voice up and down through register transitions to target pitches, and spontaneous journeys of free vocal improvisation.
 - **How poor PHYSICAL Use blocks Vocal Freedom** (e.g. pulling the head and the tongue back) To work with this theme I will introduce you to elements of the Alexander Technique - which used in connection with singing - is the best way I know of helping people release inappropriate physical tensions which interfere with their voices.
 - **MUSICAL Aspects** Many people find it difficult to remember a melody because they don't recognise the sign/sound posts that provide them with a way of orientating themselves in pitch space. To explore this I will introduce you to:
 - i) innovative melody learning systems that improve singers' tonal memory, &
 - ii) a progression for introducing part singingso that singers can learn to confidently **HOLD THEIR OWN PART IN CHORAL SINGING.**
 - **PSYCHOLOGICAL Aspects** (e.g. how to transform lack of confidence)

Above all, this workshop will enable choir leaders to **HELP UNCERTAIN SINGERS TRANSFORM ALL THE ABOVE CHALLENGES** so that they can enjoy **A LIFE LONG LOVE OF SINGING.**