

Who are the Workshops For?

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

N.B. Michael's new book for Choir Leaders, 'Creating Choral Excellence' will be available.

Workshop Leader

Michael Deason-Barrow - Director of Tonalis - is an inspirational choir trainer and a master singing teacher who regularly gives voice masterclasses in conservatoires, and works with community and children's choirs. He has also conducted at the celebrated '3 Choirs Festival' in Gloucester Cathedral and led a modular training on choir leading. Michael is recognised for being that rare exponent in music - an expert with a universal attitude.

Testimonials

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 choral singing which will change your life.

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

Michael's courses are invaluable to my development as a choir leader. Everything I learnt from Michael has been useful and I'm getting great feedback from my choir as I apply his innovative ideas and techniques. *Marion Brown - participant on Tonalis Choir Leading Courses*

Fees

For Both Workshops: £105 (for booking by March 1st) **£110** (by April 1st) **£115** (thereafter)

For Choral Conducting (2 Days) £75 / £80 / £85 (see date deadlines above)

For The Well-tuned Choir (1 Day) £42 / £48 / £54 (see date deadlines above)

Group Bookings (3+), Couples & Concessions (students & OAPs): Please contact us for details

Work Scholarship: £70 (for 3 days) **£50** (for 2 days) Please contact us for details

Times: Friday: 11:30am - 6:30pm, Sat: 10am - 6pm, Sun: 10am - 5pm

A Registration Letter: incl. venue details, etc. will be sent on receiving your booking.

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

APPLICATION FORM - 'Choir Conducting & The Well-tuned Choir'

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

Name: _____ email: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Mobile:
Telephone: _____

I am booking for: Both Workshops Choir Conducting The Well-tuned Choir

New Horizons for Choir Leaders

Master Strategies & Innovative Solutions for Creating Choral Excellence



WORKSHOP 1 The Well-tuned Choir

Learn exciting new methods
to transform flat / sharp singing
& discover how to
create a great blend of voices

25th April Friday
(11:30 - 6:30)

WORKSHOP 2 The Art of Choir Conducting

Explore a practical guide to
all the key components
of Choral Conducting

26th - 27th April 2014

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

VEHUE - Tonalis Music Centre, Stroud, GLOS.

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

The Well-tuned Choir - 25 April

2 key challenges all choir leaders face are:

- i) how to improve intonation in order to transform flat/sharp singing,
- and ii) how to achieve a good blend of voices.

This insightful day will introduce you to:

MASTER STRATEGIES and INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

- (many of them created by Michael) -

to help choirs tune up their sense of intonation and choral blend.

You'll find these choral tools will benefit your choir(s) enormously!

Are we flat?

The Well-Tuned Choir and Questions of Intonation

This day will explore:

- the typical places in music where flat singing occurs
- the relationship between singing and vocal production
- how the balance/imbalance of our physical instrument influences intonation
- tuning issues connected to dynamics, harmony, modulation, consonants and vowels (e.g. why the vowels /a/, /o/ and /u/ often go \flat , and /i/ and /e/ often go \sharp).

There will also be special - and sometimes humorous - exercises to help your choir singers hear their own voices in a chord.

Choral Blend: Singers as Harmonic Instruments

A typical parody of amateur choirs includes descriptions of:

Basses as having 'over dark' voices

Tenors as having a 'forced' tone

Altos singing with 'dull' and vibrato-filled tones, and

Sopranos singing with 'piercing shrillness'.

THIS DAY WILL CHANGE ALL THIS!!

The 'Choral Blend' sessions will help you learn how to:

- blend chords and the different voice colours of choir members who have dark vs. bright resonance, or straight vs. vibratoed voices (e.g. via judicious placement of the singers)
- blend vowels so that the harmonics are well matched
- transform your singers into 'Harmonic' instruments - not just melodic ones - through teaching them how to adjust their voices in relationship to all the other parts
- create balance between the different sections of a choir (i.e. SATB).

The Art of Choir Conducting 26 - 27 April

Conducting is all about showing what you hear in movement so that each gesture shows the inner life of the music you're conducting.

This innovative workshop provides you with the opportunity to:

Explore a Practical and Inspiring Guide to All the Basics you need to know about Choral Conducting

e.g. how to:

- establish a beat
- give cues, cut-offs and sectional entrances
- show different metres (including Eastern European-type additive metres)
 - cue offbeat entrances
 - vary dynamics and articulation
- develop the independence and co-ordination of conductor's right and left arms.

In addition, this workshop will:

- ♦ Compare Traditional Metric Conducting (traditionally used with music readers) with Figural Conducting (often used with aural learners and community choirs)
 - ♦ Get inside the question of 'what choirs see is what you get back!'

This 'Art of Choir Conducting' will also demonstrate to you
THE CLEAR LINKS BETWEEN
CONDUCTING GESTURES AND SINGING VOICES.

So come and discover how conducting can:

- ♦ display clear/unclear intentions
- ♦ communicate both helpful and negative messages to singers' voices
- ♦ show the timbre of the voice and the unique gestures underlying each vowel and consonant
 - ♦ make immediate kinaesthetic links to singers' voices via the use of Michael's new 'Voice Movement' techniques

N.B. There will also be the opportunity to explore the Choir Leaders' Guide to the use of:

- ♦ *Alexander Technique* and
- ♦ *Laban's Movement Qualities* in *Choral Conducting*.