

# BROMSGROVE WEEKEND FOR SINGERS, CONDUCTORS AND VOCAL LEADERS



Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024

Bromsgrove Preparatory School, Old Station Road, Bromsgrove, B60 2AD

New course  
for singers!

Sing for Pleasure offers a choice of courses around the country for singers, conductors and vocal leaders. Whether you are trying your hand at conducting for the first time, improving your musicianship skills or refreshing knowledge gained on previous courses, you can look forward to a challenging and enjoyable time in a relaxed but stimulating atmosphere.

## COURSE

The weekend includes choral conducting courses at **Foundation**, **Intermediate 1**, **Intermediate 2** and **Advanced** levels, and a brand-new **Singers' Course**.

Singers interested in singing with the conducting courses will also be most welcome.

## TIMING

The course starts at 10.00am on Saturday and ends at 3.45pm on Sunday following an informal performance of the music learned over the weekend.

## VENUE

Founded in 1553, Bromsgrove School is one of the oldest public schools in Britain. It is set within its own 100 acres of grounds on the outskirts of Bromsgrove. The Preparatory School stands in its own spacious grounds adjacent to Bromsgrove Senior School. It is ideally located for local and national travel to/from the city of Birmingham and its surrounding areas. Bromsgrove is also close to excellent road and rail links (the town has its own railway line), such as the M5 and M42 motorways and Birmingham train stations.

## SING FOR PLEASURE CONDUCTOR TRAINING

Our conducting training is at four levels. The Foundation level is for complete beginners and those with limited experience of leading singing and conducting. Students on the Intermediate 1 course will normally have some experience of conducting and vocal leadership. The Intermediate 2 course is designed for those who have attended previous Sing for Pleasure courses, though experienced conductors are occasionally accepted directly onto this level. The Advanced course is also designed for those who have attended previous Sing for Pleasure courses.

## COST

Foundation/Intermediate 1 Courses £245 (non-members £300)

Intermediate 2/Advanced Courses £275 (non-members £330)

Singers' Course £60 (non-members £115)

Workshop singers £55 (non-members £110)

A limited number of bursaries may be available to support conducting course costs; please refer to the website for qualification criteria and how to apply.

The course fees include all tuition, lunches, Saturday evening dinner and refreshments. Saturday night bed & breakfast is not included (we recommend the Premier Inn Bromsgrove Central).

"The Sing for Pleasure weekend courses provide the most engaging and encouraging atmosphere for people to improve or start their conducting skills."

London Weekend, Intermediate 2 student

## TUTORS

Our highly skilled team of tutors are all members of Sing for Pleasure and bring a range of experiences as professional conductors, musicians, teachers, trainers, adjudicators and workshop leaders. To find out more about our tutors, please visit the Sing for Pleasure website.

## COURSE DETAILS



### COURSES FOR CHORAL CONDUCTORS AND VOCAL LEADERS

Sing for Pleasure's courses for choral conductors and vocal leaders are delivered in two ways: technique sessions include practical demonstrations of all the key aspects of conducting, and the workshop sessions that follow give participants an enviable amount of podium time to put into practice what they have learnt. This is achieved within a relaxed and supportive learning environment. Each day starts and ends with the whole course singing together, from warm-ups to part-songs from Sing for Pleasure's extensive publications.

The courses include preparation, conducting gestures, singing the voice-parts, pace of rehearsal, effective teaching, achieving a musical performance, and constructive analysis of both one's own and others' achievements. The Course Aims for the Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced courses can be found on the Sing for Pleasure website. Details of the conducting repertoire to be studied will be sent out before the event.

Repertoire at the **Foundation** level is simple. Rounds and easy part songs allow every opportunity to work through most conducting challenges without being so complicated that they get in the way of learning the skills that participants need. Repertoire at the **Intermediate 1** level is more challenging than at Foundation level, without being so demanding that it gets in the way of effective learning, and provides an excellent preparation for the demands of the Intermediate 2 course. Repertoire at the **Intermediate 2 \*** level is more technically and musically challenging than at Intermediate 1, in a way that gives participants every opportunity to build on their existing skills. The **Advanced \*** level enables participants to develop their skills significantly in a wide range of choral and orchestral situations. Conductors are encouraged to broaden their knowledge and application of complex musical ideas and idioms.

\* These courses are designed for those who have successfully completed previous Sing for Pleasure courses; occasionally, conductors with appropriate experience are accepted at the Intermediate 2 and Advanced level at the discretion of the Head of Conductor Training.

### COURSES FOR SINGERS

We are delighted to introduce a brand-new weekend course for singers, led by choral specialist Ula Weber. As well as communal singing with the whole course, participants will explore vocal techniques and learn a wide range of uplifting repertoire. The ability to read music is not necessary.



## BOOKING & CONTACT

To book a place on the course, please visit [www.singforpleasure.org.uk](http://www.singforpleasure.org.uk) and complete the online booking form.

## ABOUT SING FOR PLEASURE

Founded in 1964 as the British branch of the international 'A Coeur Joie' movement, SfP aims to encourage the enjoyment of choral singing, inspiring high standards of performance. As well as organising a range of highly enjoyable singing events for adults and children, SfP plays an increasingly active and important role in offering help and advice to teachers and choral conductors, running INSET training and school-based singing days, conducting courses and individual coaching alongside its summer schools. There is also an impressive catalogue of SfP publications to support choral singing and provide new repertoire ideas.



In partnership with Bolton Music Service