

*The day will be led by Andrew Maries and Pete Gunstone*

*“Many churches struggle to find a lone organist or other musicians to lead congregational singing, some are experimenting creatively with the use of CDs and digital hymnals; others are learning to sing unaccompanied but some have given up altogether and are sad about having done so.”  
Andrew Maries*

*“Music doesn’t need to be part of every act of worship – quiet contemplative worship for example – but the Bible does often give us a picture of worship through singing and this is a useful model for us.” Pete Gunstone*



**Andrew Maries**

*Consultant for Liturgy and Music in the Exeter diocese and who runs the Keynote Trust*



**Pete Gunstone**

*Music Director at St Andrew’s Church, Oxford*

*A day organised by  
The Inter-Diocesan Rural Ministry Group  
Dioceses of Coventry, Gloucester, Oxford, Worcester  
Chaired by the Bishop of Dorchester*

## **The Song of the People**

### **Music in the Rural Multi-Parish Benefice**

**UPDATED WITH  
WORKSHOPS**



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**Multi-parish benefice day conference**

**Saturday 26th January 2013**

**The Kings Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES**

**10am - 4pm**

**Cost: £35 per person -includes lunch**

# The Song of the People

MUSIC IN THE RURAL MULTI-PARISH BENEFICE

## BOOKING FORM

**Name** (please print):

*(if booking as a benefice group, please give name of main contact above and give names of group members on a separate sheet, including dietary/access requirements and whether claiming CMD)*

**Parish/Church** (please print):

**Address** (please print):

**Postcode:**

**Tel:**

**Email:**

Please select the relevant options below for payment

I enclose a cheque **made payable to O.D.B.F.**

please insert total amount (e.g. £35) £

I would like the cost to be covered by a CMD grant YES / NO \*

(\* Delete as appropriate)

Please let us know about any particular access needs you have, so that we can help you to enjoy the day:

Do you have any special dietary needs, e.g. vegetarian, gluten-free? If so, please tell us about these:

In the case of benefice group bookings: please note that confirmation of booking and further information will be sent to the main contact only.

Please return to: Melanie Hawgood, Diocesan Church House,  
North Hinksey Lane, Oxford, OX2 0NB

e-mail: mpbconference@gmail.com Tel: 01865 208246

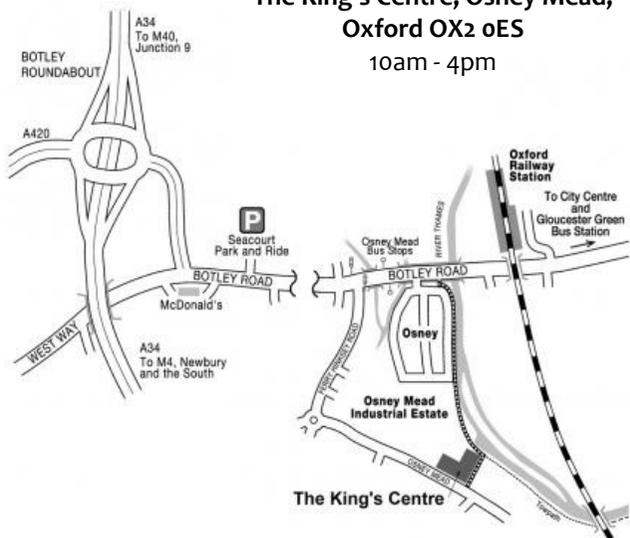
If you are a church member, musician or minister who loves music in worship then this conference is for you. If you are finding it a struggle to provide music for the worship in your benefice, or want new ideas, you will find resources and encouragement in this day. Come with others from your benefice and discover new ways of 'making a joyful noise unto the Lord'.

- How to engage the congregation in singing
- What to do when there is no organist or other musician to lead congregational singing
- How to lead and mentor musicians & worship leaders in the local church
- Practical advice and ideas for service leaders who don't feel they have a wealth of musical experience
- Music & Mission: exploring the possibilities of choirs and singing groups in the church and local community
- Developing a more creative approach to the whole worship environment, which might use recorded music, and other means of expressions such as visuals or symbolism?

As well as keynote presentations there will be workshops on a variety of themes which will run twice. There will be a number of stalls and exhibitions, including a bookstall, to help resource you and your church.

### The King's Centre, Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0ES

10am - 4pm



#### A note about transport:

The King's Centre operates a Green Transport Policy which restricts parking to those with a disability. Everyone else is requested to park and ride (nearest stop 5- 10 mins walk) or come by rail (station about 10-15 mins walk).

Please allow time for this as part of your journey. If you think you will have difficulties with this, please let us know and we will try to help.

## Workshops:

### ***Music in Messy Church – Lucy Moore (Messy Church)***

Choosing and leading songs in a Messy Church can be a challenge: how do we pick songs suitable for all ages? What song words are appropriate for people who are just starting out on their faith journey? How do we accompany the songs? What crowd control do we need to put in place when the shakers come out? What is singing in worship for anyway? This workshop will give you a chance to share your Messy problems and solutions - and to make some music!

### ***Working with what you've got – an over-arching theme of the following workshops:***

#### ***Help, I need to choose music for Sunday – John Beckett and Liz Simpson***

How we choose suitable hymns and songs for worship depends on many factors, not least 'do we have any musicians?' This workshop is a practical guide to the process led by two parish priests in multi-parish ministry. We'll look at what our choice is based upon, how to manage with no organist, and how to enlarge a repertoire. It is a chance to share how difficult it can be, but also explores realistic ideas and solutions in the small church context.

#### ***Developing creative, interactive and engaging worship – Sam & Sara Hagreaves (engageworship)***

We'll be thinking about how to draw out the creative gifts in your congregation, using other art forms and media than singing alone, and engage people in participatory worship which values their contributions. Principles, lots of practical examples and space for questions and your ideas.

#### ***Working with instruments: using the musicians you have got – Mark Bick***

This session will start with the principle that every church community, however small has the resources it needs to worship God. We will look at how people from different musical traditions can understand each other and learn to work together, how you can work creatively with seemingly odd combinations of instruments and how to create music that works with a particular emphasis on rhythm and texture (to use classical terms) or "groove" (to use the language of jazz, rock and pop genres).

### ***Choral Resources for Smaller Settings – Jon Payne (RSCM)***

Limitations of/possibilities for smaller choirs and their development Identifying your musical resources and recruiting new choir members Simple choral repertoire, with a focus on resources for Eucharistic services Music as Mission: the development of community choirs and 'outward-facing' choral activities How wide open is your church door? Engaging the parish and wider community with your church music

### ***What's the difference between an organist and a terrorist? – Peter Gunstone***

This workshop, at the same time serious and humorous, firstly takes an in-depth but light-hearted look at the potentially fruitful, but often fraught relationships between clergy, musicians, and amongst musicians. Then we will consider together how what can help to establish good working relationships and survey the potential springing to life in the desert that might follow should the Spirit bring order out of the chaos. Come with honesty, experiences to share, an open mind, perspective on the past, hope for the future, and a sense of humour!

### ***Let the people sing! – Andrew Maries***

How could you breathe some new life into your congregation's singing? Come and learn some skills for leading people in song and explore some fresh repertoire.

### ***Not over my dead body! Wheezy squeeze-boxes and new-fangled gadgets; or what about using CDs/digital hymnals in worship? – facilitated by Revd Dr Simon Topping***

A demonstration of ways of using technology to lead congregational worship. Mark Lee of Kevin Mayhew and Martin Phelps of Hymn Technology Ltd. will be joining this workshop and there will be plenty of opportunity to experience singing with the technology, and some time for a 'hands on' trial.