

# Sangstream Newsletter June 2003

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## Recent Events:

Wow - It has been a really busy first half of the year! The AGM in March saw some new committee members voted in and they've all been working very hard since then! W a S la!

### **All members meeting**

On May 8<sup>th</sup> we held the All Members meeting as proposed at the AGM. This was an opportunity for everyone to put forward their views and have a say in the aims of Sangstream. It generated a lot of information, which has been passed to the committee and hopefully members were able to gain a common understanding of where Sangstream came from and the key things that members want out of Sangstream. As ever it seems to me (Penny) that the key is finding a balance between enjoyment and learning/achievement, and aiming to please most of the group most of the time.

There was also some interest in forming a group to discuss performance issues, possibly amongst other things, and this is something that will be developed during the coming months.

### **Coldstream**

A super successful performance at Coldstream (with a standing ovation - well 2 people stood up!) and a professionally recorded CD was the result. This CD is still being refined but will hopefully be available to members for a small sum to cover costs. Note that this CD will not be for public sale (i.e. we're not going to sell it at our gigs!) - there are legal/copyright implications, which are not yet fully understood, but are under investigation.

(Hm m m m.....which folk festival will we go to next year... ..)

### **Musical Director - Farewell Jenny**

After 3 years of working with us, Jenny Clark has resigned as Sangstream's MD. I'd like to take this opportunity to formally thank Jen for all her hard work in helping us achieve the high standard of performance we have reached. It's been a great three years and I'm sure you'll agree that Jenny will be a hard act to follow!

## Upcoming Gigs:

### **ALP - Scots Music Org**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June - 3 songs as part of the ALP end of year event. Lots of other performers and ending in a Ceilidh - Hooray - we love Ceilidhs!! The venue is St Oswald's Hall, Montpellier, Bruntsfield from 7pm. Sangstream performance time is 8pm - warm up time 7pm

### **French Institute**

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June - They must like us - they keep asking us back!! The third year performing here - 30 minutes or thereabouts, very appreciative audience. Lots of other music things happening too, & usually we get a free drink... . Warm up is at 7pm sharp and the performance is 8.10 - 8.45pm in the Auditorium this year. For those who've not been there before, the French Institute is at 13 Randolph Crescent, EH3.

### **The BIG Gig - Sangstream & Friends**

St Brides, Orwell Terrace - Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June - 8pm - This is it Folks, Jen's last night with us as our MD and our last session of the term. It really is an end of an era! The posters are out, the tickets are available so start selling them to your pals/family/handsome strangers.....a bargain at £5 (£2 concession) - and you can say they can buy tickets online at <http://www.workwithus.org/whatson/viewevent.asp?ID=509111>

This is a really fabulous way of celebrating with Jenny what we have achieved together over the past 3 years, before we wish each other well and ride out into the wide blue yonder.....or over the water whichever you prefer... ..

We've also invited the MD candidates so they can get a wee taste of what we are about - no pressure... ..!

The concert will be followed with our usual wee end of year party in the bar at St Brides so bring snacks/finger food to share. Drinks will be available from the bar. **Warm up from 6.15 sharp until 7.30 when the doors open.**

### **The search for a new MD :**

We have 5 candidates who have expressed an interest in being our MD and we have invited them to teach us for a couple of sessions over the summer (details below). We have requested a short biography from each of them so will have more information for you soon. They have been asked to teach us at least one Scottish song i.e. as example of what they might teach us as MD.

Upon completion of the two sessions we will ask them to reconfirm whether they wish to be considered for the MD position. Once the 10 weeks have completed, the choir members will be asked to vote on whom they would like to work with (of those candidates who have confirmed their interest). More details about the actual voting process to follow.....

The candidate with the most votes will be offered the position for a year initially and will hopefully start on October 9th.

### **Term Dates:**

Our last date this session will be Thursday 26th June – our concert at St Brides!

The new term after summer will begin on Thursday 25th September at Boroughmuir. We will probably have a "locum" MD for the first couple of weeks, as it is not expected that the new MD will be able to start on the 25<sup>th</sup>. We need time to collate the votes and notify the successful candidate, as well as allowing them preparation time prior to starting.

### **Summer Sessions:**

The summer term starts on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July and will run for 10 sessions. This year we are having a change of venue and we'll be meeting at the Braid Centre, Morningside Cross, Edinburgh. This is the church hall on the corner of Heritage Terrace & Nile Grove opposite the Morningside Post Office. Our guest leaders will be as follows:

Leader	Location	Time	Date
Talitha McKenzie	Braid Centre	7 – 9pm	10th July
Talitha McKenzie	Braid Centre	7 – 9pm	17th July
Steve Byrne	Braid Centre	7 – 9pm	24th July
Steve Byrne	Braid Centre	7 – 9pm	31st July
Mari Campbell	Braid Centre	7 – 9pm	07th August
Mari Campbell	Braid Centre	7 – 9pm	14th August
Yvonne Burgess	Boroughmuir	7 – 9pm	21st August
Yvonne Burgess	Boroughmuir	7 – 9pm	28th August
Corrina Hewat	Boroughmuir	7 – 9pm	04th September
Corrina Hewat	Boroughmuir	7 – 9pm	11th September

The cost for these sessions will be £ 5 and £ 2 (conc) per session.

Sessions can be paid for on the night. However, why not take advantage of our 'special deal', pay for them all at once and save, save, save! £ 35 and £ 10 (conc) respectively.

### **Looking forward to it!**

Finally, whilst we are using these summer sessions as part of the selection process for our new MD, let's also simply enjoy the singing and learning new songs – and spending time with some wonderful people as well.... !!

***Here's to a Super Summer of Sangstream Singing!***