

# Spring Newsletter 2018

## Spring has sprung ...

... and rung in the changes here at NESMS. **Kathleen Cronie** finished working in her administrative post at NESMS at Easter. She is, of course, continuing to work as a NESMS singing tutor. A huge thanks to Kathleen for all the energy and enthusiasm she has brought to her post and a very warm welcome to **Sophie Lewis** who has now taken up the position of Assistant to the Manager.

Gráinne will be leaving at the end of May and we are delighted to let you know that her post will be filled by **Louise Forbes**. Gráinne and Louise will be working together for a hand-over period during the last two weeks in May. Do put your head in the office door and meet both Sophie and Louise in the coming weeks.

## New faces at NESMS ...



### **Manager Designate (from June 2018) — Louise Forbes**

Louise was a management accountant before taking a career break to raise her family. For the past 3 years she has worked at an Aberdeen secondary school supporting a busy guidance team with preparations for the proposed implementation of the Named Person legislation. Louise also previously held the position of Honorary Treasurer for a small local charity.

### **Assistant Manager (Timetable and Events) Sophie Lewis**

Originally from Kilwinning, Sophie has been playing cello since she was 7 years old, and is now studying under Aline Gow of Scottish Opera at the University of Aberdeen, where she is a member of the University's symphony and chamber orchestras.



In 2017 Sophie worked at The Fresh Air Fund in New York teaching music to young people aged 12-15, and went on to study at St Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. Here, she performed with the St Olaf Philharmonia and worked with founder of the International Cello Institute, Anna Clift.

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## New Initiatives at NESMS

We are delighted to let you know of the success of our recent new initiatives at NESMS:

- Our first ever **Musical Theatre Masterclass** led by Professor Andrew Paton and our first **Jazz Saxophone Masterclass** led by Richard Ingham were both very well attended and enthusiastically received. Both Professor Paton and Mr Ingham have expressed an interest in working with NESMS again in the near future.
- Kathleen Cronie's **Stage Skills for Musicians Workshop** was such a success that she is running a similar event on the afternoon of Saturday 28th April. Sign up now if you are interested.
- Beccy Goldberg is now offering one hour, individually tailored **Confidence Coaching** consultations. Appointments are still available on Friday 27th April.

## Come and support us – and enjoy these wonderful events!

### April

#### **Fetteresso Festival of Music** Recital by NESMS students

Friday 20th April: 7.30pm at Fetteresso Church, Stonehaven

#### **Confidence Coaching** with Beccy Goldberg

Friday 27th April. Individual sessions are open to book now.

#### **Stage Skills for Musicians** led by Kathleen Cronie

Performance skills, audition preparation, marketing and social media skills and programme writing

Saturday 28th April: 2-4pm at NESMS

### May

#### **Turriff Rotary Club**

NESMS students will be performing for club members.

Tuesday 1st May: 7.30pm approx.

### June

#### **Singing Workshop**

led by Donald Maxwell

Saturday 2nd June: 10am to 1pm at NESMS.

#### **Friends of NESMS Scholarship Concert**

Featuring many of our young scholarship holders

Friday 22nd June: 7.30pm at Craigiebuckler Church.

#### **Aberdeen Recorder Day**

National Youth Recorder Orchestra

Sunday 24th June 2018: 10am to 4pm at NESMS

Also planned for June is a **Jazz Workshop** led by Joseph Long and Ian Milne. More details to follow - and don't forget to visit our [website](#) if you would like to see a **review** of our latest Student Concert.

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## Student Success

Congratulations to:

- Scottish Concert Band Festival Most Outstanding Soloist 2018: **Beth Morrison (Flute)**; and
- Winner of the 2018 Betty Wyness Rosebowl Piano Competition at St Margaret's School: **Janani Mohan**

For a full list of other achievements, including success at auditions, school and other prizes, and grading and certificate awards by the national examining boards please see the special [supplement](#) which accompanies this newsletter (available on request)

## New Arrangements for Scholarship Auditions

As many of you will know, NESMS Scholarship Auditions have, in the past, been held in November with scholarship funding commencing from the start of the next calendar year. This has proved problematic, particularly for S6 students awarded full scholarship who may be leaving Aberdeen for study or employment at the end of the academic year. For this reason, the Music Committee has decided to shift auditions from November to April. Students will then be auditioning for funding for the following academic year.

**Our next scholarship auditions will, therefore, be held in April 2019.** We are aware that some students may find that they have a gap in funding for the period January to June 2019. If you are concerned about covering the cost of your lessons over that period please do get in touch, in confidence, with Gráinne or Louise: NESMS will endeavour to provide financial support for students who may not otherwise be able to afford their lessons.

Any student in full time education is eligible to audition for a NESMS Scholarship. Last November 36 students secured full or part scholarships.

The image is a promotional graphic for ASPC (Aberdeen Scottish Property Centre). It features a dark blue background. On the left, the text 'reach more buyers with aspc' is written in white, with 'reach more' and 'buyers' on separate lines and 'with aspc' on the third line. Below this, in smaller white text, it says 'aspc shows your home to the right audience'. At the bottom left, the tagline 'The heart of local property' is written in a small font above the 'aspc' logo. On the right side of the graphic, there is a stylized illustration of a hand holding a house. The house is light beige with a grey roof, a chimney, and a teal door. The hand is shown from the wrist up, with a white shirt cuff and a purple sleeve visible.

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## Donors without whose generous support we could not exist

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## Sincere thanks to the very many private individuals who also support our work

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