

## Pete Shephard & Arthur Watson

Pete and Arthur bring together a wealth of song repertoire gleaned directly from the many traditional singers they have known, and unaccompanied song is at the heart of their enthusiasm. Both were members of the folk band Shephard, Spiers and Watson for more than a decade and Arthur was also a member of the well respected Aberdeen based group The Gaugers and both have been involved in running the annual Fife Traditional Singing Festival.

Originally from Stroud in Gloucestershire, Pete has lived many years in Fife, plays melodeon and sings many songs that he has collected directly from traditional singers both in rural Fife and among the Traveller community. A founder member of the Traditional Music and Song Association of Scotland (TMSA) in the mid 1960s, his enthusiasm as a singer and collector resulted in the creation of Springthyme Records in the 1970s specialising in the release of recordings of traditional song and music.

Arthur is originally from Aberdeen and has been steeped in the music of North-east Scotland from an early age, is an artist and a senior lecturer at the University of Dundee, plays whistles both big and small and now lives in Perth. In the 1970s he set up what became the internationally respected Peacock Print Makers in the folklorically infamous Peacock Close just off Aberdeen's Castlegate. His enthusiasm for folk song and printing technology comes together in his appreciation of Peter Buchan of Peterhead whose early work in both fields resulted in his 1828 Ancient Ballads and Songs of the North of Scotland.

A publicity pic of Pete and Arthur can be accessed from their webpage:  
<http://www.springthyme.co.uk/ssw/>