

# CROSSROADS

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter, December 2010

## Sing a Song of X'mas - "Stille Nacht"

Of all the songs sung at Christmas, perhaps the most popular is *Stille Nacht* (*Silent Night*). The words, in German, were written by an Austrian priest, Joseph Mohr, in 1816. On Christmas Eve two years later Mohr gave the words to his friend Franz Gruber, a headmaster, and asked him to set them to music. Gruber composed a melody and arranged it for two solo voices and choir with guitar accompaniment, and later the same day the song was performed at the Nikolaus-Kirche (Church of St. Nicholas) in Oberndorf, Austria. The slightly unusual choice of the guitar may have been because the church organ was broken at the time. Others claim that Mohr, a guitarist, wanted a song he could perform by himself to his own accompaniment. The original flowing, dance-like tune is a little different to the version we are familiar with, which is slower, almost like a lullaby.

The English translation that is generally sung today was published in 1859 by an American bishop, John Freeman Young. Since then, *Silent Night* has been translated into over 44 languages and performed by, among others, Simon and Garfunkel, Bing Crosby, Elvis Presley, Christina Aguilera and Susan Boyle, as well as – in more traditional style - the King's College Choir and the Vienna Boys' Choir.

During World War I, the song was sung simultaneously in French, English and German by troops during the Christmas truce of 1914, being one of the few carols that soldiers on both sides of the front line knew.

Perhaps the most beautiful of all carols, *Silent Night* - whichever language it is sung in - is an indispensable part of the Christmas season.

*Article by Jonathan*



Young Singers from the Exeter Cathedral Choir

## Net News

**NET LESSONS:** Try our *lessons on the Internet!* It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! Call for details: **089 9217595**

**NET SITE OF THE MONTH:**

Get lyrics and music for Silent Night at this site:  
[www.links2love.com/christmassheetmusic/silent-night-sheet-music.htm](http://www.links2love.com/christmassheetmusic/silent-night-sheet-music.htm)

**CROSSROADS ON MIXI:** Check it out!  
[http://mixi.jp/show\\_profile.pl?id=30381548](http://mixi.jp/show_profile.pl?id=30381548)

# Some Thoughts for the Month



**Joshua Says:** Last month's performance party had all the usual fun and excitement, and I'd like, once again, to congratulate those students who performed – excellent work everyone! Thanks to Jonathan, too, for his performance with the guitar – solo and in accompaniment with Yuriko. I was, however, a little disappointed with the unusually low turn out of students this time – must have been a “busy” day for most of you. Anyway, for those who missed it, you can check out some of the action here on P3.

**Junko Says:** The “Working Holiday” experience may become increasingly important for Japanese people in the future. Companies such as Rakuten and Unicro are promoting English as their language for everyday communication. They are now starting to encourage their staff to *use* English, not just pass tests in English. Crossroads has now developed practical business English courses to support this movement. We also have much more information on working holiday programs. I'd very much like to share this information with many of you.



**Jonathan Says:** I have always admired the fortune-teller who sits in Okaido after the shops have shut. Like a heron, she waits impassively, not moving, waiting for the kill. So I was surprised to hear her call out, ‘Good evening’, to a passersby. Business must be tough – and perhaps for many others in Japan now. I wonder if she knows what the future will bring.

**Greg Says:** The end of the year is once again upon us as the Christmas lights flicker in the mall to the echo of the drunken salarymen and office ladies returning from their never ending end-of-year parties. I will be spending this “winter” on the beach back in Australia where, of course, it is summer. I hope you all have a great Christmas and a healthy New Year. Remember that the real joy of Christmas is in the giving (not receiving) and making someone happy...so go ahead, send me a present and make me happy...hahaha....



**Kevin Dit:** Décembre est finalement arrivé ! Comme vous le savez peut-être, décembre est un mois particulier pour les Français, comme c'est le cas dans de nombreux pays. Si la température est parfois glaciale, l'atmosphère est, elle, plus chaleureuse qu'au milieu du mois d'août, les gens étant portés par la ferveur de Noël, qui est une fête totalement différente de ce que vous pouvez connaître au Japon... penser à Noël m'emplit toujours de nostalgie. J'espère qu'il sera magnifique, particulièrement cette année...

# NOTICE BOARD

## Scenes from our last End-of-Term Party and Performance Night '10-11-27



Jonathan accompanied Yumiko through three songs, then gave us a solo performance on the guitar



In(B)2 performing "Old Flame"



In(A)1 with, "I am a Cat"



Relaxing with some good wine and food after the performances



Yukako Ozake in B1 went to Spain recently. Here are some of her impressions and photos: "I went to Spain with my friend in October. We first arrived in Finland and then went on to Spain from there. I had a very enjoyable time in Spain. On the way back to Finland I made contact with some nice people. Some foreigners were sitting next to me. I think they were Spanish. I thought they would not be able to understand my English, but I wanted to go to the toilet! I tried to ask in English, "I'm sorry. I want to go to the toilet". They said, "no problem" and smiled at me. I felt reassured and happy they could understand me. Speaking English made me feel very happy. I want to speak English with people from many countries, now!"

← A post-box (top) and, at the bank.



The Sagrada Familia in Barcelona →



## クロスローズの好きなコースで英語を学ぶ。

### "GENERAL (ジェネラル) コース

英語+実践練習

60分 x 2回/週:

1学期-4ヶ月毎にレベルが上がる  
クロスローズのメインプログラム

90分 x 1回/週:

忙しい方のための週1レッスン

プライベート(個人)

月2回からレッスン回数自由選択

セミプライベート(セミ個人):

月3回からレッスン回数自由選択

**クロスローズで学べるその他の外国語**

フランス語 - スペイン語 - ドイツ語 - イタリア語 - ロシア語 - 中国語 - 韓国語



### COSMOPOLITAN (コスモポリタン) コース

英語+実技を通した実用練習、だから誰でも分かる、自然に上達する。

英語でギターを習う

英語で歌う

英語で料理

英語でマジック

ピアノ

英語劇

ヨガ

レッスン料 ¥4,725/月~  
詳細はお問合せ下さい

### NET(ネット) レッスン

グループOR プライベート



### KIDS' (キッズ) クラス

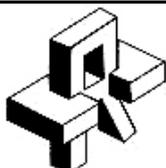
グループOR プライベート



### MOTHER & CHILD

(マザー&チャイルド)

グループOR プライベート



**CROSSROADS**

ランゲージスタジオ  
英会話スクール

〒790-0004 松山市大街道  
2丁目1-3 2F, 3F



Phone: 0120-21-7594

Tel: (089) 921-7595

Fax: (089) 921-7319

E-mail: info@crossroadsco.com

Web Site: www.crossroadsco.com