



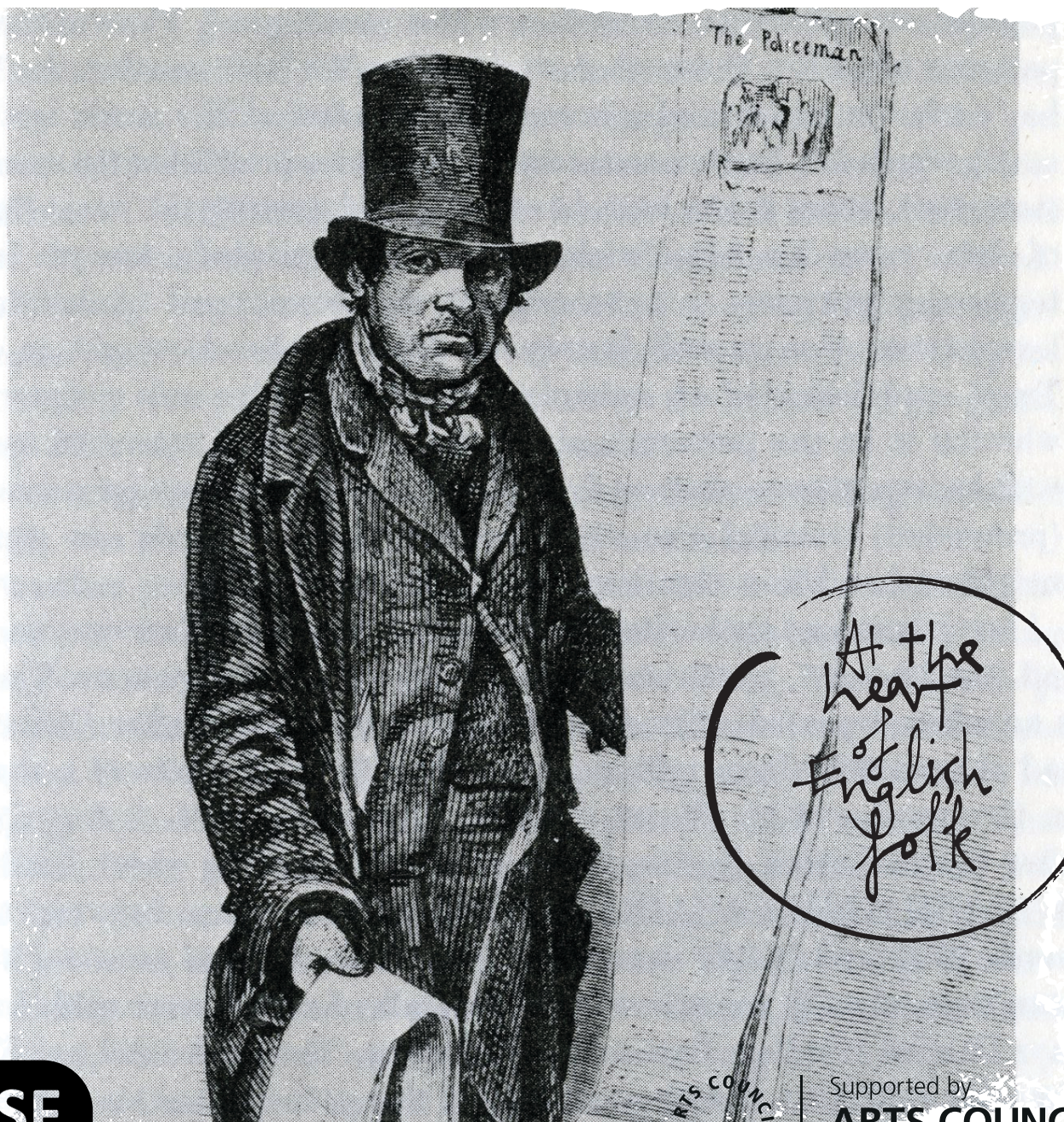
English
Folk
DANCE & SONG SOCIETY

Vaughan Williams
Memorial Library

BROADSIDE DAY

Saturday 22 February 2020

Cecil Sharp House, London



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

PROGRAMME

9am	Registration
9.20am	Welcome
9.30am	Martin Graebe —Chesapeake and Shannon: a battle and its broadsides, the view from both sides
10am	Lydia G Fash —‘The dying words of Captain Kidd’, a ballad for the common sailor
10.30am	Refreshments
11am	Colin Bargery —Gone to weave by steam: the social impact of steam power on the textile industry of north west England
11.30am	Wyn James —Ballad printing in the Vale of Glamorgan
12noon	Gary Kelly —‘Fairburn’s Edition’: From the old to the new street literature. John Fairburn, Sr. and Jr., the Minories and Ludgate Broadway, London—reconstructing a sixpenny publisher and their plebeian readership
12.30pm	Lunch break
1.30pm	Leo De Frietas —Blocks and books: the blocks of the Newcastle chapbooks and ballad sheets. A study of the Rare Book Collection of wood blocks in McGill University, Montreal, Canada
2pm	Michael King Macdona —Sir John Franklin in broadside and oral tradition
2.30pm	Elisa Marazzi —Children and transnational popular print, 1700-1900 (a European Dimensions of Popular Printed Culture research project)
3pm	Refreshments
3.30pm	Peter Wood —The role of broadsides in the transmission of the broken-token songs
4pm	David Hopkin —Siege songs in Flemish broadsides
4.30pm	Catherine Anne Cullen —Punks, pretty novices and persecuted virgins: nuns in broadside ballads from the Glorious Revolution to the Nunneries Inspection Bill

ABSTRACTS

Martin Graebe

CHESAPEAKE AND SHANNON: A BATTLE AND ITS BROADSIDES, THE VIEW FROM BOTH SIDES

The action between HMS Shannon and the USS Chesapeake on 1 June 1813 only took twelve minutes but the echoes of the conflict have sounded down the years in the ballads surrounding it. In this presentation, Martin Graebe will examine the broadsides produced by each side as well as the songs collected from traditional singers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Martin Graebe is an independent researcher, writer, and singer who has studied, and written about a number of aspects of traditional song. His book *As I Walked Out; Sabine Baring-Gould and the Search for the Folk Songs of Devon and Cornwall* (Signal Books, 2017) has received both the Katharine Briggs Folklore Award and the R. G Hoskins Prize.

Lydia G. Fash

‘THE DYING WORDS OF CAPTAIN KIDD’, A BALLAD FOR THE COMMON SAILOR

‘The dying words of Captain Kidd’ was arguably the first thoroughly American folk ballad and, through the first half of the nineteenth century, one of the most popular. Using broadside versions printed by Boston-based Nathaniel Coverly, this paper argues that the ballad became an anthem for the working-class US sailor, angry about economic uncertainty and brutal punishment.

Lydia G. Fash is Assistant Professor of English at Simmons University (Boston, MA), where she teaches courses on pirates, detectives, medical narratives, and US literature. She has published various peer-reviewed articles on literature and pedagogy and has a monograph *The Sketch, the Tale, and the Beginnings of American Literature* forthcoming from the University of Virginia Press in April.

Colin Bargery

GONE TO WEAVE BY STEAM: THE SOCIAL IMPACT OF STEAM POWER ON THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY OF NORTH WEST ENGLAND

Steam power initiated profound social change in north west England. The culture of the semi-rural cottage industry was replaced by a recognisably modern industrial society.

Colin Bargery is curating a website called ‘Songs from the Age of Steam’ (<http://songsfromtheageofsteam.uk/>) which gathers together songs about the social impact of steam power and puts them into their social context. He has given papers at the National Railway Museum, and the British Commission for Maritime History and contributed to *Street Literature of the Long 19th Century* [Atkinson & Roud Eds. 2017] and to *Street Literature and the Circulation of Songs* [Atkinson & Roud Eds. 2019].

E. Wyn James

BALLAD PRINTING IN THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN

In contrast to the industrial valleys of north Glamorgan, which would become the main centre of ballad printing in Wales in the 19th century, far fewer ballad leaflets were printed in the mainly rural Vale of Glamorgan to the south, despite that area being characterised by a lively folk culture. This paper will discuss the handful of ballads (mainly in Welsh) that have survived from presses in Cowbridge and Bridgend and the way newspapers increasingly superseded ballad leaflets as the Victorian era progressed.

E. Wyn James was until his retirement a Professor in the School of Welsh at Cardiff University and co-Director of the University’s Centre for Welsh American Studies. He is an authority on Welsh literature and culture of the modern period and has published widely in areas relating to religion, identity, gender studies, folklore, and book history.

Gary Kelly

‘FAIRBURN’S EDITION’: FROM THE OLD TO THE NEW STREET LITERATURE. JOHN FAIRBURN, SR. AND JR., THE MINORIES AND LUDGATE BROADWAY, LONDON—RECONSTRUCTING A SIXPENNY PUBLISHER AND THEIR PLEBEIAN READERSHIP

The firm of John Fairburn, father and son, at premises in Ludgate Broadway and the Minories, London, supplied an urban market with a wide variety of mostly sixpenny print, including engravings and aquatints. This material addressed its market’s readers and their interests in different ways—from politics through domesticity and sociability to cheap fiction. Prominent in Fairburn’s sixpenny mega-text were songsters—a kind of ballad anthology. This presentation attempts to reconstruct a market/readership and their lifeways through the highly localised production over three decades of Fairburn, their politics, home interests, domesticity, sociability, social and political interests, and others.

Gary Kelly teaches English and Comparative literatures at the University of Alberta, Canada. He is the General Editor of the Oxford History of Popular Print Culture. Current projects include a history of fun and an account of sixpenny romanticism.

Leo De Freitas

BLOCKS AND BOOKS: THE BLOCKS OF THE NEWCASTLE CHAPBOOKS AND BALLAD SHEETS. A STUDY OF THE RARE BOOK COLLECTION OF WOOD BLOCKS IN MCGILL UNIVERSITY, MONTREAL, CANADA

Dr De Freitas is now an independent researcher in the print culture of popular literature in the modern era working through material in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. His professional career was spent researching and teaching British Illustration 1480-2000 on which subject he has contributed books, reviews and articles.

Michael King Macdona

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN IN BROADSIDE AND ORAL TRADITION

Sir John Franklin's ill-fated expedition to find the North-West Passage excited much interest and engaged the attention of broadside ballad writers in the 1850s. After a brief historical introduction, this paper considers three broadsides in relation to their dates, historical context and the extent to which they transferred into the oral folksong tradition, contending that only one such broadside made the transition and noting two fragmentary exceptions.

Michael King Macdona is a retired solicitor, married with one daughter and living in Bedford. He has a long-standing interest in folk song, dating from the mid-1960s, especially shanties and sea songs.

Elisa Marazzi

CHILDREN AND TRANSNATIONAL POPULAR PRINT, 1700-1900 (A EUROPEAN DIMENSIONS OF POPULAR PRINTED CULTURE RESEARCH PROJECT)

A relevant amount of cheap material was printed for children in many different regions of Europe in the modern period (chapbooks, illustrated broadsheets, tracts, ABCs). There is also evidence that children also read/possessed/listened to popular materials that were not specifically addressed to them. All this has been often overlooked by scholars in both popular print and children's literature. The presentation will showcase the first results of Elisa Marazzi's current project, showing how a deeper insight into cheap print for children is likely to shed new light both on book trade and the history of children's literature.

Elisa Marazzi is currently carrying out an EU-funded project on Children and Popular Print 1700-1900, based at Newcastle University. She has previously researched Italian school-and-children books, and has subsequently worked on almanacs. Studying the ways in which children encountered popular print bridges her main research interests.

Peter Wood

THE ROLE OF BROADSIDES IN THE TRANSMISSION OF THE BROKEN-TOKEN SONGS

The texts of the two most popular broken-token songs will be compared with collected versions and suggestions made as to the actual broadside used in each case. With the other songs in this group, there are too few versions for this to be feasible.

Peter Wood is perhaps better known as a singer, but in recent years has increasingly turned to research into traditional songs and singers. This has led to several publications, including books on Napoleonic songs, the Elliotts of Birtley, and Johnny Handle.

David Hopkin

SIEGE SONGS IN FLEMISH BROADSIDES

Siege songs are a particularly popular theme in European historical ballads, and Flanders is no exception. Siege songs are couched as dialogues between a besieging general and a female city who spurns his over-active ardour. As in pastorals, the female character is sometimes successful, and sometimes not. Three sieges were remembered in Flemish broadsides in the nineteenth century -- the siege of Maastricht (1673), the siege of Lille (1708), and the siege of Luxembourg (1795). This paper will use these examples to explore the relationship between broadsides and folksong in the southern Netherlands, how songs influenced Flemish historical memory, and the role of broadsides in the development of the Flemish revival.

David Hopkin is Professor of European Social History at the University of Oxford. He is currently working on a project about lacemakers' songs, including Flanders, France and England.

**PUNKS, PRETTY NOVICES AND PERSECUTED VIRGINS:
NUNS IN BROADSIDE BALLADS FROM THE GLORIOUS
REVOLUTION TO THE NUNNERIES INSPECTION BILL**

From a 1688 broadside ballad in which nuns had reverted to “their former profession of punks” (prostitutes) to three intriguing songs from the Cashel Ballads Collection at Trinity College Dublin in 1851-3 about the so-called “Nunneries Inspection Bill”, this paper will look at the contrasting portrayal of nuns as figures of sexual intrigue or of religious devotion.

Dr Catherine Ann Cullen is the inaugural Poet in Residence at Poetry Ireland for the City of Dublin. She is an award-winning poet, songwriter and children’s writer.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

LIBRARY LECTURES

Expert speakers guide you through fascinating topics around folk song and dance.

JOHN MALCHAIR'S 'THIRD COLLECTION OF TUNES' AND OTHER 18TH CENTURY TUNE BOOKS AT THE VAUGHAN WILLIAMS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

BY ALICE LITTLE

Wednesday 26 February ⇨ 7.30pm

John Malchair (1730-1812) was a violinist and artist in Oxford, who spent his 'leisure hours' collecting music from Wales, Ireland, Scotland, and further afield. His tunebooks contain over 500 tunes, mostly country dance tunes and the melodies for songs, many of which are still played today. His sources for his collection included printed books, friends, and street musicians. His collection comprises four volumes of tunes, the third of which is at the VWML.

MAUD KARPELES, ADVENTURER AND FOLKSONG COLLECTOR: A RECONSIDERATION OF HER 1929 AND 1930 NEWFOUNDLAND FIELD EXPLORATIONS

BY ANNA GUIGNÉ

Wednesday 25 March ⇨ 7.30pm

In 1929, Londoner Maud Karpeles, a proponent of the early twentieth century British folk song and folk-dance revival movement, journeyed to the Dominion of Newfoundland to document British folk songs in England's oldest colony. From 14 weeks of fieldwork, carried out between 1929 and 1930, Karpeles acquired close to 200 songs and dances, later publishing her findings in a series of articles and two major publications *Folk songs from Newfoundland* (1930, 1931, 1934 & 1970). Karpeles has always been a controversial figure for scholars because of her colonialist status and her sole focus on collecting songs of British origin. In this presentation Anna Guigné will offer a new consideration of Karpeles as an adventurer with the stamina and determination to carry out her fieldwork in a most challenging environment. When her entire collection of British song material is taken into consideration, particularly the fifty-two songs she acquired from Newfoundland's remote south coast, we can also discern how and why some of the British songs she so diligently acquired are now part of the Newfoundland song complex.

CONFERENCES

‘THE FOLK VOICE’

Saturday 6 June 2020

Humanities Research Institute, 34 Gell Street, Sheffield, S3 7QY

The Traditional Song Forum is organising a conference, with the support of The University of Sheffield, and Soundpost, which will look at the way in which traditional songs have been and are performed and at the singers of tradition and the revival. The closing date for submissions is 16 March 2020.

TRADITIONAL TUNES AND POPULAR AIRS: EXPLORING MUSICAL RESEMBLANCE

Saturday and Sunday 10-11 October 2020

Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent’s Park Road, London NW1 7AY

Organised by the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library/English Folk Dance and Song Society

TTPA conferences aim to bring together researchers working on ‘traditional’ and ‘popular’ tunes as transmitted and transformed in all manner of musical styles and genres, performance contexts, levels of society, historical periods, and geographical locations. The closing date for submissions is 29th February 2020.

TRAD NIGHTS AT CECIL SHARP HOUSE

Enjoy tales of love and lust, incest and murder, humour and tragedy, sung by some of today's finest traditional singers. Intimate and unamplified, you can't get any closer to the source...

PETA WEBB & KEN HALL

Wednesday 4 March

BRIAN PETERS

Wednesday 1 April

CHRISTINE KYDD

Wednesday 6 May

CHRIS FOSTER

Wednesday 16 September

DEBRA COWAN

Wednesday 14 October

JACKIE OATES

Wednesday 19 November

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