



Traditional Song Forum

TSF meeting at the Humanities Research Institute, Sheffield University Saturday 16 September 2017, 09:30 – 17:30

On 16 September the Traditional Song Forum will be the guests of Sheffield University for a meeting to be held at the Humanities Research Institute, Upper Hanover St, Sheffield S3 7QY

The meeting that led to the formation of the **Traditional Song Forum** was held on 20 September 1997. We are delighted to be celebrating the completion of two decades with a special day at Sheffield University, who have kindly hosted so many of our meetings in the past. A feature of the day will be the second Roy Palmer Lecture, to be given by Ian Russell, who was one of the people who helped to shape TSF in its early days. There will also be a presentation on the Carpenter Project, which will have arrived at an exciting new milestone with the addition of the James Madison Carpenter collection of songs to the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library Digital Archive.

During the second part of the afternoon we will have a series of short talks about particular aspects of traditional song, with an opportunity for observations or questions from the audience. The afternoon will end with a more general Q&A session.

The meeting is open to all without charge

MEETING PROGRAMME [Content and timings may change]

09:30	Tea, Coffee available	
10:00	Welcome, housekeeping etc	Chair
10:05	TSF Business	Chair/Martin/Doc
10:20	Networking session	Chair
12:00	Lunch	
13:15	Carpenter Folk Online: Latest developments from the EFDSS and the Carpenter Project	Julia Bishop, Steve Roud
14:00	The Roy Palmer Lecture: Why Study Traditional Song/Singing? A Personal Quest for Meaning.	Ian Russell
15:00	Tea – with cake! The Changing World of Traditional Song	Chair - Martin
	A series of short presentations (5 - 7 minutes) with opportunity for discussion, questions. Each presentation will deal with one aspect of traditional song, looking at how it has changed over the last twenty years and consider it's future.	

15:25	The Traditional Song Forum – how have we done over our twenty years of existence and what might we achieve in the future?	Martin Graebe
15:40	Performance – how has the performance of traditional song changed in the last two decades and where might the future lead us?	Fay Hield
15:55	Academic study – what has happened in the academic study of folk song and what may happen in the future?	Arthur Knevett
16:10	Publication – How has the publication of folk songs changed and what might its future be?	David Atkinson
16:25	Collections and Archives – Many new archives have been discovered in recent years and new ones are being created. What is the future for collections and archives?	Derek Schofield
16:50	Broadsides – Interest in broadsides has increased significantly in the last twenty years – why is this and what might happen next?	Steve Roud
17:05	Concluding questions and discussion.	All speakers
17:30	Meeting ends	

THE ROY PALMER LECTURE:

Why Study Traditional Song and Singing? A Personal Quest for Meaning

Prof. Ian Russell

Ian Russell writes:

‘In this lecture, I will embark on an exploration of the life journey I have made documenting traditional songs and singing, trying to make sense of the changing landscape, identifying the key moments and encounters, and reflecting on the experiences of fieldwork and scholarship. Along the way, I will be noting significant connections, identifying creativity, sharing transformative experiences, and evaluating my ‘progress’. Ultimately we are all trying to understand an aspect of human expression and it is the people who share and nurture their cultural traditions and with whom we build relationships that provide us with the key, the content and the vision. Fear not, this lecture is not about theory or navel gazing but people, songs and singing’.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Tea and Coffee will be available at the start of the meeting and at the afternoon break. Lunch will be taken at a pub nearby (or forage for yourself). Afternoon tea will include a slice of special celebratory cake (thanks, Shan!).

On Saturday evening **Royal Traditions** at the Royal Hotel, Dungworth, Sheffield, S6 6HF will be featuring **Molly Evans and Jack Rutter** in a concert starting at 8 o’clock. There will be tunes before the concert and a singing session at about 10:00. Some tickets for seats are available (<http://www.wegotickets.com/event/384386>) and there is plenty of standing room.

The meeting is being organised with the help of Fay Hield and Julia Bishop with Frances and Helen from the Soundpost Team, to whom we are very grateful.

It would be great if you could let us know if you are planning to come – but we can manage if you decide at the last minute that you really would like to be there after all.

Martin Graebe