



DAVID HERRON'S CHAPBOOK

I am a member of the Traditional Song Forum and it was at one of their meetings that the idea first arose to publish a list of books currently available on traditional folk song. Members of the T.S.F. are indicated by (TSF) in the listings below.

All the books listed below are currently in print and are on British Books in Print under the ISBN shown. It is intended to provide singers and all those interested in folk songs with a starting point and access to the songs. Please note: - I mean starting point! I hope other singers and musicians will feel free to add and update this list with their own favourites and discoveries. And I hope you will have a lot of enjoyment from them as I have.

A number of excellent reprints are available from Llanerch Press, but those wishing to take things further should investigate the Vaughan Williams Library at Cecil Sharp House and get hold of the recent publication by Dave Atkinson - which suitably enough is first on the list

Update June 2000 - New additions are flagged. I am happy to include the songbooks from both Veteran Mail Order and Hobgoblin, who both have some good items. Thanks to John Howson at Veteran and Sarah Mallinson at Hobgoblin for their listings. My thanks also to; Georgina Boyes for the lead on the book on West Gallery harmony, to Terry Whelan for tipping me off about Whall's book on shanties, which is still available from the publisher, and thanks to Gerald Porter in Finland for his addition. Thanks to all who have responded & sent me further titbits: keep them coming!

David--Todmorden West Yorks. June 2000

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ATKINSON, Dave

Bibliography of the Songs in the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library. English Folk Dance & Song Society £4.50
ISBN 0854181784

<*> Essential tool for anyone involved in folk song research.

The Library at Cecil Sharp House houses the main collection of material on folk music dance and song in this country.

ASHMAN, G & I

West Gallery Harmony: carols and celebrations. West gallery music Association. ISBN 0903515180. Invaluable collection and information on West Gallery and 'shape singing' traditions (NEW JUNE 2000)

BAILEY, Peter

Music Hall: the Business of Pleasure.
Open University Press. £19.99 ISBN 0335151299
<*> Useful if generally academic social history of the Music Hall in Britain.

BARING-GOULD, Rev Sabine

Garland of Country Songs. Llanerch Publishers Pbk £12.95
ISBN 186143071X
<*> Llanerch seem to have cornered the market with their attractive facsimile reprints. 'Garland' was published a year after the better known 'Songs of the West'. Introduction by Martin Graebe (TSF) Secretary of the Traditional Song Forum and member of the Wren Trust.

BOARDMAN, Harry & PALMER, Roy.

The Manchester Ballads. Manchester Education Committee Pbk
£10.00 ISBN 0904072029
<*> Facsimile edition of the Broadside ballad collection in the Manchester libraries edited by the late, great, Harry Boardman. Thanks to Mary Humphreys for the info on this one.
Available from Manchester Education Music Services; Tel
0161 226 4411.

BOYES, Georgina

The Imagined Village. Manchester University Press. Pbk
£12.99 ISBN 0719045711
<*> An important background work, by a leading scholar in the field, on the beginnings of folk song collection in the British Isles with details of the collectors and the politics and ideologies that underlined their work.

BRATTON, J.S.

Music Hall: Performance & Style.
Open University Press. £19.99 ISBN 0335151310
<*> Second social history of the Music Hall from the O.U. to accompany the work listed by Bailey above. An academic but useful background text about performers and performances.

BROWN, Jeremy

Hampshire & Berkshire Folk Songs. J. Brown Portsmouth. Pbk
£1.80 ISBN 0951518739

BRUCE & STOKOE

Northumbrian Minstrelsey. Llanerch. Pbk. £9.95
ISBN 1861430396

<*> Another Llanerch reprint containing, apart from the pipe tunes, a wealth of material from the Northeast.

BURNS, Robert

Merry Muses of Caledonia. University of South Carolina Press
1999. \$90.00 ISBN 1570033242 (Available Ingram)

<*> It's scandalous that this should be the case but it's down to an American import if you want to get a copy of this most famous work from Burns. American wholesaler Ingram report it as a stock item.

CARSON, Ciaran

Last Night's Fun. Pimlico. Pbk. £10.00
ISBN 0712662529

<*> This little book has no music or song in it. But I would have felt unsatisfied if I had not included Carson's delightful account of growing up with and learning to play traditional Irish music. It's all here: the beauty of fugitive nights in pubs, honouring the memory of dead players - Seamus Tansey, Joe Cooley, & Seamus Ennis. For sheer lyrical writing and atmosphere I recommend it as ultimate bedtime reading for any folkie!

CASTLE, Pete

Open the Door and Let Us In: Folk Songs for Children & Adults. Steel Carpet Music. Pbk. £2.00 ISBN 1871391008

CASTLE, Pete (Ed)

Kentish Songster: Folk Songs from Kent. Steel Carpet Music.
£5.00 ISBN 1871391148

CASTLE, Pete

False Waters: ballads and Songs. Steel Carpet Music. £2.00
ISBN 1871391083

CHILD, Francis James

Lord Randal & other British Ballads. Dover £0.95
ISBN 0486289877

<*> A Dover Thrift Edition selected from the real work. A poor relation but the only Child entry in print.

COLONNE, Celia Morrison

Wiltshire Folk Songs. Wilts Folk Life Soc. Spiral. £3.00
ISBN 0907756034

COPPER, Bob

A Song For Every Season. Coppersongs. Pbk £14.95
ISBN 095262401X

<*> Award winning account of Bob Coppers travels in Sussex and Hampshire collecting songs from traditional singers for the B.B.C. It captures a whole way of country life that has now all but disappeared. The book also includes a selection of songs from the repertoire of the famous Rottingdean family. Pure gold in every sense!

COPPER FAMILY,

The Copper Family Songbook. Coppersongs £15.00 ISBN 0952624001. Superbly reproduced edition of their original family songbook containing songs spanning the generations. Available direct or via Veteran Mail order

COPPIN, JOHNNY

A Country Christmas. Windrush Press. Pbk. £12.99
ISBN 0900075775

<*> An unusual compilation by the Gloucestershire singer formerly with Decameron, including verse, anecdotes, tunes, songs and carols drawn from the folk tradition and literature.

DAVENPORT, Paul (Ed.)

South Riding Folk Network Song Book. S.F.R.N. Pbk. £6.95
ISBN 0952985756

<*> Songs from South Yorkshire and the Sheffield area with versions of well known songs, and some interesting regional material from the amazingly energetic South Riding Folk Network. The editor, Paul Davenport (**TSF**) is also responsible for two well-researched tune books with music from the area. ISBN 0952985705. Available from S.R.F.N. 24 Chapel St. Mossburgh, S20 5BT

DAVIES, G. and PALMER, R

Let Us Be Merry - Traditional Gloucester Carols
Golden Branch Publishing £5.95 ISBN 095260311X

<*>A collection of carols as a result of recent field collecting by Gwilym Davies (**TSF**) And Roy Palmer. Accompanying CD available.

DAWNEY, Michael (Ed.)

Ploughboy's Glory: Collection of Hitherto Unpublished Folk Songs. English Folk. Pbk. £1.00 ISBN 0854181172

DAWNEY, Michael

The Iron Man: English occupational songs for voice & folk guitar. Stainer & Bell. Pbk £3.25 ISBN 0852492944

DOERFLINGER, William Maine.

Songs of the Sailor and Lumberman: Meyerbooks £19.95 ISBN 0916638405. The bible of sea shanties and songs from the logging camps of North America. Available from Hobgoblin and the Music Room. (NEW JUNE 2000)

FOSS, Peter

Bumper Book of Music Hall Songs.

EMI Publishing £18.95 ISBN 0861754417

<*> Sadly the only book with words and music for all those songs we all remember from the 'good old days'

GRAEBE, Martin.

Jack in the Green and Other Heroes. Wren Trust Devon

ISBN 0951626442

<*> Fine collection of songs from Martin Graebe (TSF) including club favourites 'Harry the Hawker' and 'Peter's Private Army'

HALL, Reg

"I Never Played to Many Posh Dances" Scan Tester, Sussex Musician 1887-1972. Musical Traditions £7.95 ISSN 02655063
History of the life and times of the famous Sussex concertina player and included here for the background information on traditional music and musicians.

HEALY, James N (Ed)

Ballads from the Pubs of Ireland. Vol.1: Popular Songs and Ballads. Ossian Pubns. £3.95 ISBN 190042830X

Ballads from the Pubs of Ireland. Vol. 2: Ballads from an Irish Fireside. Ossian Pubns. £3.99 ISBN 1900428350

Ballads from the Pubs of Ireland. Vol. 3: Comic Songs
Ossian Pubns. £3.99 ISBN 1900428407

Irish Songs of the Sea. Ossian £3.95 ISBN 1900428458

<*> The best of Healy's collections with some genuinely interesting items with both text & music.

HOLME VALLEY BEAGLES

Hunters Songs. £7.00 The 4th edition of the Holme Valley huntsman's song book as sung by Will Noble & John Cocking
Cat ENB 7 Available Veteran Mail Order

HOWSON, John

Many a Good Horseman. Veteran A\$ £5.95 ISBN 1872301029
Cat. no. ENB3 –a survey of traditional music making in Suffolk.
Detailed information and reminiscences from this lively musical tradition. Available from Veteran Mail Order

HOWSON, John

Songs Sung in Suffolk. Veteran A5 £8.95 ISBN 1872301010
Cat no. ENB1 Photos and bibliographical details of the singers
to accompany the cassette of John's field recordings over the
last 20 years. Available Veteran Mail Order.

HUGILL, Stan

Shanties from the Seven Seas. Mystic Seaport Museum Pubns
Pbk. £10.95 ISBN 0913372706
<*> The only title of Hugill's still in print and only available on
import from the USA. Essential reading for anyone interested in
songs of the sea, by a collector who actually was a shantyman.
Try specialist outlets like Hobgoblin or the Music Room.

IVES, Edward D

Drive Dull Care Away; Folksongs from Prince Edward Island
University of Illinois Press. 1999. \$24.95 ISBN 0919013341
<*> Out of the normal remit of the rest of the list but again
something new and of interest that should be available on
import fairly easily from the American wholesalers Ingrams.

JACKSON-HOULSTON, C.M.

Ballads, Songs, and Snatches. The appropriation of folk song
and popular culture in British 19th century realist prose. Ashgate
Publishers. £42.50 ISBN 1840142960 . Reported as a thorough
and accurate reference on novelists such as Scott, Kingsley,
Hardy, Dickens, and Thackeray, and their use/misuse of folk
songs (**NEW JUNE 2000**).

JONES, Lewis (Ed.)

Sweet Sussex: Folk Songs from the Broadwood Collections.
Ferret Publications. Pbk. £3.95 ISBN 0952636301
<*> The result of Lewis Jones (**TSF**) research into the tunes and
music to the Broadwood collection. Available from Lewis.

JONES, Lewis (Ed.)

Miss Broadwood's Delight: Folk Songs from Sussex & other
English Counties. Ferret Publications. Pbk. £4.15
ISBN 095263631X
<*> Further collection from Lewis. Available direct.

KENNEDY, Peter

Folk Songs of Britain & Ireland. Oak Publications. Pbk.
£24.95 ISBN 0711902836
<*> Peter Kennedy's authoritative and comprehensive record of
traditional singing in the British Isles largely based on the BBC
sound archives from the '50s. Includes examples in Scottish &
Irish Gaelic, Cornish, Welsh, and Romany along with extensive

notes on written and recorded sources. Invaluable and irreplaceable-'the folk singers Bible'.

KIDSON, Frank

Traditional Tunes. Llanerch Pbk £9.95 ISBN 1861430817

<*> Another classic reprint for Llanerch. Described by Lucy Broadwood as 'a turning point...the first book in which tunes & texts given in 'undoctored form' are accompanied by scholarly critical notes'. Now available with new introduction. (**NEW JUNE 2000**).

KILGARRIFF, Michael.

Sing Us One of the Old Tunes; A guide to Popular Song 1860-1920. Oxford University Press £35 ISBN 0198166575

A marvellous resource for documenting songs in the repertoire of traditional singers. Who wrote what when, and who sang it? Lot's of Music Hall source information. For an in-depth review see English Dance & Song Autumn 1999 Vol 61 No3. (**NEW JUNE 2000**)

LOESBERG, John (Ed)

Folk Song & Ballads Popular in Ireland. Ossian Pubns. £2.75
ISBN 0946005001

LOESBERG, John (Ed)

Songs and Ballads of Ireland. Ossian Pubns. £2.95
ISBN 0946005532

More Songs and Ballads of Ireland. Ossian Pubns. £2.95
ISBN 0946005540

LOESBERG, John (Ed)

Traditional Folkongs & Ballads of Scotland Vol1. Ossian £3.95
ISBN 0946005788

LOESBERG, John (Ed)

Traditional Folksongs & Ballads of Scotland Vol 2 Ossian £3.95
ISBN 0946005796

LOESBERG, John (Ed)

Traditional Folksongs & Ballads of Scotland Vol 3 Ossian £3.95
ISBN 094600580X

McMAHON, Sean

Poolbeg Book of Irish Ballads. Poolbeg £4.99
ISBN 1853711276

MARSDEN, John

Illustrated Border Ballads; the Anglo-Scottish Frontier.

University of Texas Press \$34.95 ISBN 0292738633

<*> An American anthology of the Border Ballads published in 1991, but I have no idea as to its content or approach. Again available through American wholesaler Ingrams.

MARSDEN, Keith

Picking Sooty Blackberries. Songs of Keith Marsden.

Fellsongs Pubns £9.95 ISBN 1871318017

<*> Beautiful collection of the songs of the late Keith Marsden with an introduction by members of Cockersdale the group that brought so many of his great songs to a wider audience

MILNER, D

Bonnie Bunch of Roses. Oak £12.95 ISBN 0825602564

Traditional songs from the British Isles. Available from Hobgoblin Mail Order

MOORE, A.W.

Manx Ballads & Music. Llanerch £8.95

ISBN 1861430752

O,CONNOR, M.J.

This Song I'll Sing To You -songs the Cornish love to sing with songs from Charlie Bate, Bob Cann, Charlie Pitman and Mervyn Vincent. Lyncham Hse Pub. ISBN 0952822571

<*> Available direct from Veteran Mail Order Cat ENB 12.

O'ROURKE, Brian (Ed.)

Pale Rainbow: Gaelic Folk Songs with English Translations.

Irish Academic Press. Cloth. £15.00

ISBN 0716524252

PALMER, Roy

Book of British Ballads. Llanerch. Pbk £9.95

ISBN 1861430621

<*> The first of three items by one of the most interesting contemporary folk song collectors and historians. It includes unusual versions of traditional ballads, street ballads and broadsides, Music Hall and contemporary ballads written today.

PALMER, Roy

Bushes and Briars; Folk Songs collected by Ralph Vaughan

Williams. Llanerch. Pbk £9.50

ISBN 1861430728

<*> First published by Everyman, Roy Palmer's selection of songs from the collection of Ralph Vaughan Williams. One hundred & twenty-one songs selected from a total of 810 making a wide-ranging and a fine representative sample.

PALMER, Roy

Sound of History. Pimlico. Pbk. £14.00

ISBN 0712673164

<*> The most ambitious work from Roy Palmer, this volume explores English social history from the perspective of contemporary song. Arranged by subject, from crime to sport, politics to the sexes, it covers songs of social comment from the last 400 years. Fascinating reading, with a great selection of songs, all backed up with a wealth of background notes and references.

PATTEN, Bob & Jacqueline

Somerset Scrapbook. INA Pub £15.00 A4 ISBN 1869897013

Collection of songs, stories and music from Somerset in a boxed set including cassette. Available Veteran Mail Order

PERCY'S RELIQUES

Groom, Nick (University of Exeter) "Reliques of Ancient English Poetry. Routledge 3Vols £275.00 ISBN 0415143810

<*> Yes that really is the price for this collection of ballads songs and historical poetry hailed as a seminal text which encouraged a revival of interest in national folklore across Europe when it was published. Up to now the first edition has been unavailable but at this price it's still a library job. (My thanks to Derek Brinkley for spotting this one!)

PINTO, Vivian De Sola

The Common Muse. Scholarly Press \$89.00 ISBN 040313313

<*>Published in America but listed as available - so you should be able to order it via U.S. wholesalers Ingrams or Baker & Taylor. Ask your local bookshop.

RAVEN, Mike

Victoria's Inferno. Raven Publishing ISBN 0950372234

Songs of old mills, mines, canals, and railways. Available from Hobgoblin Mail Order

RAVEN, Mike

John O'Barbary. Raven Publishing £4.50 Cat.No. GM0371

Traditional tunes and arrangements by Mike Raven from Nic Jones to June Tabor. Available Hobgoblin Mail Order.

RAVEN, Mike

Raven's Nest. Raven Publishing £4.50 Cat No. GM0372

Mike Raven's collection of rural and industrial songs. Available from Hobgoblin Mail Order

REED, James

Border Ballads. Spredden Press £7.95 ISBN 1871739225

SHARP, Cecil J.

One Hundred English Folk Songs. Dover. Pbk £11.15

ISBN 0486231925

<*> The only book of Sharp's work as a folk song collector still in print. It includes notes and introduction by the best known figure in the history of folk music and dance in this country.

SUMNER, Heywood

The Besom Maker. Llanerch. Pbk. £5.95 ISBN 1861430698

TOLMIE, Frances

One Hundred & Five Songs of Occupation from the Western Isles of Scotland. Llanerch. Pbk. £8.95

<*> Reprint from the FSS Journal edited by Lucy Broadwood, of work songs from the collection of Frances Tolmie, a leading expert on Gaelic folklore. Another classic from Llanerch.

VALLELY, Fintan & PIGGOTT, Charlie

Blooming Meadows: the world of Irish Traditional Musicians
Town House. Cloth £ 13.99 ISBN 1860591000

WALES, Tony

Ballads Bands and Bell-ringers. Field and Furrow Books £1.95
ISBN 0950816620

WHALL, Captain.

Sea Songs and Shanties. Brown Son & Ferguson Pub £9.95
ISBN 0851741819. Classic collection of shanties frequently
referred to in modern sources. Still available. **(NEW JUNE
2000)**

There are many wonderful sources of folk songs that are now out of print. The Vaughan Williams Library at the English Folk Dance & Song Society in London is the main resource in the U.K. for further investigation and research. Dave Atkinsons Bibliography of the collection is well worth purchasing. (EFDSS Pubns ISBN 0854181784) There are, however, a number of titles that do appear in second hand bookshops and through specialist suppliers that are worth looking out for.

CHAPPELL, William

Popular Music of the Olden Time. Vols 1-2. Dover. Pbk. 1965

<*> As founder of the Musical Antiquarian Society, Chappell's interest and investigation into the history of the songs, ballads and dance tunes of England, led to the publication of Popular Music of the Olden Time between 1855-59.

CHILD, Prof. Francis J

English & Scottish Popular Ballads. Vols 1-5. Dover. Pbk 1965

<*> The definitive work on ballads including variants and investigations into source and background. Still unsurpassed a century after publication

HAMER, Fred

Garners Gay. English Folk Dance & Song Society

<*> One of the many publications from the E.F.D.S.S. sadly out of print. Fred Hamer recorded some wonderful singers during the '60s most of whom had been missed before. This was all the more remarkable as Fred was blind. An item to be treasured!

LLOYD, A.L.

Folk Song in England. Panther. Pbk. 1969

<*> Although not a collection of folk songs, Bert Lloyd's book was a landmark in the examination of folk culture, bringing it alive and including many examples of traditional song as well as the new forms of song from industrial society.

PALMER. ROY (Ed.)

Oxford Book of Sea Songs. O.U.P. Cloth 1986

ISBN 019214597

<*> Another excellent collection from Roy Palmer tracing sea songs from the Middle Ages to the present. Some unique material and as usual supported by extensive notes

PURSLOW, Frank

Marrow Bones E.F.D.S.S. 1965

Wanton Seed. E.F.D.S.S. 1968

Constant Lovers. E.F.D.S.S. 1972

Foggy Dew. E.F.D.S.S. 1974

<*> Frank Purslow's selections from the Hammond & Gardner manuscripts are still sought after and provided many a singer with a stream of material in the heyday of the early '70s.

STUBBS, Ken

Life of a Man. English Folk Dance & Song Society

<*> Another collection from the EFDSS imprint, now sadly out of print.

WILLIAMS, Ralph Vaughan & LLOYD, A.L.

Penguin Book of English Folk Songs. Penguin. Pbk. 1975

<*> The book that launched a thousand folk singers and still one of the best selections to be found. - Try the local library!

WOODS, Fred (Ed.)

Oxford Book of Traditional Verse. O.U.P. Cloth 1983.

ISBN 019214597

<*> Sadly no tunes are included in what is otherwise an excellent collection with some unusual variants and some very interesting items.

I hope this provides a starting point for anyone interested in English folk song. Many singers and collectors will be familiar with the books I have included. I hope they will add and amend the entries to cover any gaps I might have missed.

David Herron