The Society for Folk Life Studies

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 2012**

The Society for Folk Life Studies

**Annual Conference, 2012**

 **Manchester, England, 13th to 16th September**

Every city is unique, and our 2012 conference is intended to explore Manchester's uniqueness.

Its rise and wealth in the Victorian period was largely based on cotton. It is still possible to see some of the late eighteenth century mills on which Manchester’s commercial richness was based. However, cotton manufacturing was soon decanted to the more suitable towns and villages of south Lancashire. Manchester was to become the trading centre for the industry, ‘Cottonopolis’. One day of the conference will be given over to an exploration of this industry and will include a visit to Styal Mill, Cheshire, now owned by the National Trust.

The cultural richness of any city is enhanced by contributions made by incomers. This is certainly true of Manchester where life has been enriched by the involvement of communities from Germany; from the Ashkenazi Jews of central Europe and the Sephardic Jews of the south; by the Irish; the Italians; and by the Eastern European immigrants from countries such as Poland and the Ukraine who settled here in the years up to and including the Second World War. The period after the war brought commonwealth immigrants from the Caribbean and the Asian communities from both the Indian sub-continent and some parts of Africa. This period also saw the enlargement of the Chinese communities who had begun to settle here earlier in the century. The first full day of the conference will consist of a study of some of these communities.

Our conference venue will be the recently-refurbished People’s History Museum. There will be the usual excursion, a tour of the city and some local entertainment at the conference dinner on the Saturday evening. We are sure that delegates will come away from the conference with an enriched understanding of what made – and continues to make Manchester the city it is.

Due to the wide range of hotels and guest houses available within Manchester, the conference fee this year will comprise three rates:

The cost of attending the whole conference **WITHOUT accommodation** will be **£295**. (A list of hotels near the People’s History Museum is available on request)

The cost of attending the whole conference **WITH accommodation** in the *Macdonald Townhouse Hotel* ([*http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/manchester-townhouse-hotel/*](http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/manchester-townhouse-hotel/) *)*near to the People’s History Museum will be **£495**for **single occupancy,** and**£445**per person for **two people sharing** a room.

**Day rates** for the conference (**with lunch and dinner, but NO accommodation**) are available at £100 EACH DAY for the 14th, and 15th and £60 for the 16thSeptember.

If you wish to attend this year’s conference, please complete the application form overleaf and send it, with **a non-returnable deposit of £75**, to the Conference Secretary (StephMastoris) at:

National Waterfront Museum, Maritime Quarter, Oystermouth Road, Swansea, SA1 3RD, Wales.

As usual, in addition to an opportunity to learn about and experience the distinctive culture of Manchester, we hope also to have contributions on this theme from the rest of the British Isles and beyond. Please contact the conference secretary, if you wish offer a paper. (steph.mastoris@museumwales.ac.uk)

The Society for Folk Life Studies

**Annual Conference**

**Manchester, England:  13th to 16th September 2012**

*\*\*The city: its industry, its ethnic groups and its culture\*\**

*The conference hotel is Macdonald Townhouse Hotel 101 Portland Street, Manchester city centre, Greater Manchester M1 6DF (Tel: 0844 855 9136), Website:*[*http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/manchester-townhouse-hotel/*](http://www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/our-hotels/manchester-townhouse-hotel/)

**PROGRAMME**

(DRAFT as at 17-7-2012)

**THURSDAY, 13th  September**

17.15-18.00            Registration at People’s History Museum, Left Bank, Spinningfields, Manchester, England, M3 3ER (Tel/Fax: +44 (0)161 838 9190), Website:<http://www.phm.org.uk/>

18.00-18.05            **Eddie Cass**(SFLS President)

*Welcome*

18.30-19.30            **Professor Alan Kidd** (Manchester Metropolitan University)

*Keynote address:* 'Manchester: the first industrial city'

*19.45-21.00            Dinner at The People’s History Museum*

**FRIDAY, 14th  September**

***Urban Minorities and their role in the growth of the city***

*09.05                     Assemble at People’s History Museum*

*09.00-09.05* **Eddie Cass**

*Introductory remarks.*

09.05-09.50         **Bill Williams** (Manchester University)

*An acceptable minority? Manchester's Jewish community*

9.50-10.30            **Tony Rea** (Independent scholar)

*The Italian Contribution to Manchester from the 19th Century to the Present* (<http://www.ancoatslittleitaly.com/tony_rea_ice_cream.htm>)

*10.30 – 11.00         Tea & coffee*

11.00-11.45          **Gerry Yeung** (Yang Sing)

*The Chinese in Manchester: 1960- 2010*

11.45 – 12.30       **MervynBusteed** (Manchester University)

*Being Irish in Nineteenth Century Manchester*

*12.30 – 13.30       Lunch at People’s History Museum*

13.30 – 14.30       ***Short papers****:*

*13.30-13.50***John Baldwin***Manchester Muscle and Baguley Beef*

*13.50-14.10***Patricia Anderson***Mystery of the Tribulum*

*14.10-14.30***AndreasHeiss***The folklore, history and archaeology of the bladdernut*

14.45-17.45               **Canals and Cotton**

A walking tour of the city’s Northern Quarter

19.15                          **Wine Reception at the Yang Sing Restaurant**

Sponsored by The Folklore Society

*20.00                          Dinner – Chinese Banquet at the Yang Sing restaurant*

**SATURDAY, 15th September**

***The cotton industry***

*09.00                      Assemble at People’s History Museum*

09.00-09.45         **Terry Wyke** (Manchester Metropolitan University)

*Picturing the cotton industry.*

09.45-10.30          **Ian Gibson** (Lancashire County Museum Service)

*Turning the Screw - The Nuts & Bolts of Cotton Production*

*10.30-11.00           Tea & coffee*

11.00-11.45          **Alan Fowler**(Manchester Metropolitan University)

*Working-class Autobiography and the Lancashire Cotton Industry*

11.45-12.30           **Brian Hollingworth**(Editor of *Songs of the People* and of *The Diary of Edwin Waugh, 1847-1851*)

***Th’OwdhamWeyver’: Cotton and the popularity of Dialect Verse in the Industrial Revolution***

*12.30-13.30           Lunch at People’s History Museum*

13.30                      ***Coach excursion to Styal Mill & Country Park***

(To include talk on the mill and tour of the mill buildings)

17.30                                      Return to hotel

19.00                      **Lancashire entertainment** by One Accord and Sid & Liz Calderbank

*19.30                       Dinner at the People’s History Museum*

**Lancashire entertainment** by One Accord and Sid & Liz Calderbank

**Sunday, 16th September**

*Information regarding church services will be available for those wishing to attend*

*0900                       Assemble at People’s History Museum*

09.00-09.45            **Annual General Meeting** of the Society for Folk Life Studies.

09.45-10.30            **Nick Mansfield** (University of Central Lancashire)

*Trade union and political banners - Folk art or mass production?*

*10.30-11.00            Tea & Coffee*

11.00-12.30            **Katy Archer**. (Director, People’s History Museum)

*The People’s History Museum and our collections*,*followed by guided tour of the                                  museum*

12.30-13.00            **Brian Loughbrough** (SFLS)

Concluding remarks

*13.00-14.00            Lunch at the museum*

*End of conference*