Treasures from Our Archives

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 23.2 (June 1989). This issue featured two articles, slightly allied: Edith Fowke's "Filkongs as Modern Folksongs" and James Prescott's "Music of the SCA". ("Filkongs" are songs from science fiction fandom, while the "SCA" is the medieval re-creating Society for Creative Anachronism.) A song written by James, "Lady Hartley's Lament", accompanied the latter article, as did "The Brave and Bonny Host" by Roger Shell. Two traditional songs, "Départ pour les îles", from the singing of Allan and Léontine Kelly of New Brunswick, and "I'll be the Good Boy", collected in Newfoundland by Jim Payne, completed the issue.

Bulletin 23.3 (September 1989). Bill Sarjeant's article "Canadian Folk Music -- Merely a Fading Sound in a Commercial Wilderness?" mused on the state of the art in Canada. As well, Lynn Whidden told us about the Saskatchewan and Manitoba Music Educators' Prairie Music Project, and Denis Donnelly about the Victoria Folk Music Society. Anne Lederman presented four "Tunes from Present-Day Tunesmiths". and Nate Tinkham's song "Curly Bob" completed the music component of the issue. Reviews were of the 1989 Edmonton Folk Festival, and of the Great Western Orchestra's eponymous recording.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 28.2 (June 1994). This issue consisted mostly of the Festival Directory (in those days it was published only a year ago), but there was still room for some other material, including "The Jealous Lover" (a traditional song from Edith Fowke's collection), Bill Sarjeant's photo montage of the 1993 Annual General Meeting, an EthnoFolk Letters column, written by George W. Lyon this time, and reviews of a Cal Cavendish concert in Calgary, the 1993 Winnipeg Folk Festival, Richard Chapman's book The Complete Guitarist, and recordings Chansons judéo-espagnoles vols. 1-III (Gerineldo), Worth All the Telling (Larry Kaplan), Bluesology (The Whiteley Brothers) and five "Celtic" recordings.

Bulletin 28.3 (September 1994). Subtitled "Canada/Britain/Rituals/Music", the issue featured an article by Mike Ballantyne, "English Ritual Songs", including a number of songs in that vein; the British and ritual twin themes were also furthered by Pauline Greenhill's article "On the Whiteness of Morris", a response to it by Daniel Stone, Andrea and David Spalding's "The Mummers and the Paupers", "The Role of Music in the Men's Movement" (Michael Tacon) and "Ritual Drumming in the Men's Movement" (Fred Hollis). In addition to the English ritual songs, Rika Ruebsaat's "Underneath the Cow" and Judith Cohen's "Telephon Lover" were included, as well as an EthnoFolk Letters column by Cia Gadd. The first Festival Directory as a quarterly update rather than a once-a-year feature showed up. Reviews were of Bud Davidge's book The Mummer's Song and Pauline Greenhill's Ethnicity in the Mainstream, and of recordings Where Old Friends Meet (Ken Whiteley et al.), Música Tradicional del CUSCO-PERU and Música Tradicional del LAMBAYEQUE-PERU and Prairie Druid (Paddy Tuty).

Five Years Ago

Bulletin 33.2 (June 1999). The showpiece of this issue was an interview with Paddy Tuty, accompanied by "Burr Oak" (an instrumental written by her) and her recorded version of the traditional song "The Cuckoo". Several columns appeared: an EthnoFolk Letter from Paddy Tuty, a radio column, "Islands in the Sand" by Steve Fruitman, and a short Centrefold (magazine column). Lots of letters and other housekeeping were included, as well as many reviews and the Folk Festival Directory.

Bulletin 33.3 (September 1999). George W. Lyon's feature article "Glory and Joy Crown the King!: Tory Songs from the American Revolution" was accompanied by a number of songs and poems as examples. David Gregory contributed an article on "Transatlantic Troubadours: Pete Seeger, John Hasted and the English Folk Song Revival", while Barry Luft penned "Belated Greetings to Pete Seeger for His 80th Birthday on May 3, 1999". In addition to the Loyalist songs, "L'île aux Loups" represented Canadian tradition. An EthnoFolk Letter by Judith Cohen, the festival directory, and a number of reviews made up the balance of the issue.

These issues (and all back issues, either in original form or as photocopies) are available from CSTM Back Issues, 224 20th Ave. NW, Calgary, Alta. T2M 1C2.