

Folklore, Geography and Environment: Ways of Knowing Water, Landscape and Climate in the Anthropocene. The Folklore Society conference 14-16 July 2023, at The Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull, 27 High Street, Hull, HU1 1NE and online via Zoom

Programme

Friday 14 July

12:00 Registration opens, online and at The Wilberforce Institute

12:50 **Welcome** and opening words by **Prof. Briony McDonagh**

13:00-14:30 **Session 1** **Water Transformed** Chair: Briony McDonagh

Tatiana Bastet (online): Water Dwellers, Disaster, and Dolls: Portable Material Culture and Distributed Memory.

Alan Murdie (in person): Water, Extreme Weather Events and Climate—Some Environmental Patterns Reflected in Ghost Folklore.

Manuel Ernst Erich Helmus (online): The Fisherman and his Line in the Anthropocene—Transformative Fishing Practices in Larena, Siquijor Island, Philippines.

Discussion

14:30-15:00 Break

15:00-16:00 **Session 2** **Rivers** Chair: Kate Smith

Devender Kumar (online): Water and its Folklore in North India: A Case Study in a Haryanvi Village.

Joe Shute (online): Cultural Daylighting: Using Stories of The Past and Present to Re-Imagine Lost Urban Rivers and Influence Future Regeneration.

Discussion

16:00-16:30 Break

16:30-17:30 **Session 3** **Water Cultures** Chair: Ed Brookes

Magdalena Buchczyk (online): Salvaging Wetlands, Safeguarding Heritage?

Kate Smith (in person): Risky Cities: Using Arts and History for Flood Resilience.

Discussion

17:30-18:30 Drinks and light refreshments

18:30-- Forage for food and head for the pub (and we'll leave an online room open)

Saturday 15 July

09:00 Registration desk and online meeting open

09:30-11:00 Sessions 4a and 4b (parallel sessions)

4a Salty Waters

Chair: Stuart Dunn

Gary Robinson and **Lynda Yorke** (in person): Responding to a Dynamic Environment—A Long View of Coastal and Maritime Communities in North Wales.

Rajalekshmi G.R. (online): 'Eyes on their Fingertips': A Study on the Social-Ecological Memory Underlying the Ecoliteracy of the Fisherfolk Community of Thiruvananthapuram.

Tabitha Peterken (online): Superstitions and Practice: A Protective Boundary.

Discussion

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-13:00 Sessions 5a and 5b (parallel sessions)

5a Shrimp and Rice

Chair: Paul Cowdell

Cahya Gemilang & Rapti Siriwardane (online): Spectral Ecologies of Submergence: Tracing Shrimp, Jasmine, and Ancestral Graves in Java.

Helen Underhill (in person): Water Cultures: Understanding Dynamic Risk Landscapes Faced by Agricultural Communities Subject to Environmental Changes.

Femke Vulto (in person): Sailing the Dark; the Cultivation and Productivity of Ignorance amongst Dutch Shrimp Fishers.

Discussion

4b Rituals and Holy Waters

Chair: Caroline Oates

Manolis Varvounis (online): Water Rituals in Greek Folk Culture (19th -20th C.): A Contribution to the Study of Greek Water Cultures.

Sarah Jane Boss (in person): Riverine Shrines of the Virgin Mary in the Region of the Bristol Channel.

Sophia Kingshill (in person): Bogs and Bog Bodies: Responses to a Landscape.

Discussion

5b Flowers

Chair: Richard Jenkins

Richard Bradley (in person): Well Dressings: A Controversial History.

Nidhi Mathur (online): Diverse Roles of River 'Ganga' in Indian Folklore.

Lucy Hornberger (in person): 'The Thames is the New Ganges': Hindu *Visarjan* Immersion Rituals and British Rivers.

Discussion

Saturday 15 July (cont.)

13:00-14:00 Break for lunch

14:00-15:30 Sessions 6a and 6b (parallel sessions)

6a Divergent Waters

Chair: Stuart Dunn

Rachel Lobo (online): The Lake is History: The Visual Culture of Black Mariners on Lake Erie.

Daniel Keech and **Susie Olczak** (in person): Narratives of the Extreme—Can it Get Any Wetter?

Paul Coddell (in person): 'The sky is too big': Reclaimed Flatlands and their Communities, What Happens When the Edge of the World Becomes its Centre, and Romanticisation in Fieldwork.

Discussion

6b Delta and Flood Plain

Chair: David Hopkin

Adam Grydehøj and **Ping Su** (online): How Do We Know the Delta? Disappearing Islands, Changing Waterscapes, and Altered Lifeways in China's Pearl River Delta.

Robert Piotrowski (online): Folk Narrations about Water Bodies in the Southern Baltic Lowland: From Geomythological Interpretations to Examples of Symbolic Eco-Symbiosis.

Cornelia Florea (in person): The Whims of Nature, the Stories of People: The Danube River and Its Materiality.

Discussion

15:30-16:00 Break

16:00-17:30 Session 7 **Water in the Land** Chair: Sophia Kingshill

Hanna Geschewski (in person): Circumambulating for the Rain: The Role of Folklore, Spirituality, and Faith in the Farming Practices of Tibetan Refugees in South India.

David Hopkin (in person): The Passions of the Flax, Continued.

Vito Carrassi (online): Flood as a Landscape Creator: From City to Lake (and Something Else).

Discussion

17:30— Forage for food and head for the pub (and we'll leave an online room open)

Sunday 16 July

09:00 Registration desk and online meeting open

09:30-11:00 Session 8 Maps Chair: Paul Cowdell

John Bjorkman (online): The Cartography of Placelore: Historic Maps as a Source Material for Understanding Patterns in Folk Belief.

Stuart Dunn (in person): Imagining Atlantis: Challenging Pseudoarchaeology with Maps and Folklore.

Kathleen Ragan (in person): The Narrative Map on an Evolutionary Timescale.

Discussion

11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-13:00 Session 9 Stories of Water Chair: Sophia Kingshill

Rosalind Kerven (in person): Dragon Kings of Drought and Flood: Taming Fears of Climate Disaster in Chinese Folk Narratives.

Chris Hare (online): The Encroaching Sea and Dragon Ponds—Aquatic Folklore of the Sussex Coast.

Angelika H. Rüdiger (in person): The Welsh Fairies, Supernatural Characters, and the Meaning of Water in Welsh Literary Motifs from the Middle Ages up to the Present Time.

Discussion

13:00 Conference closes