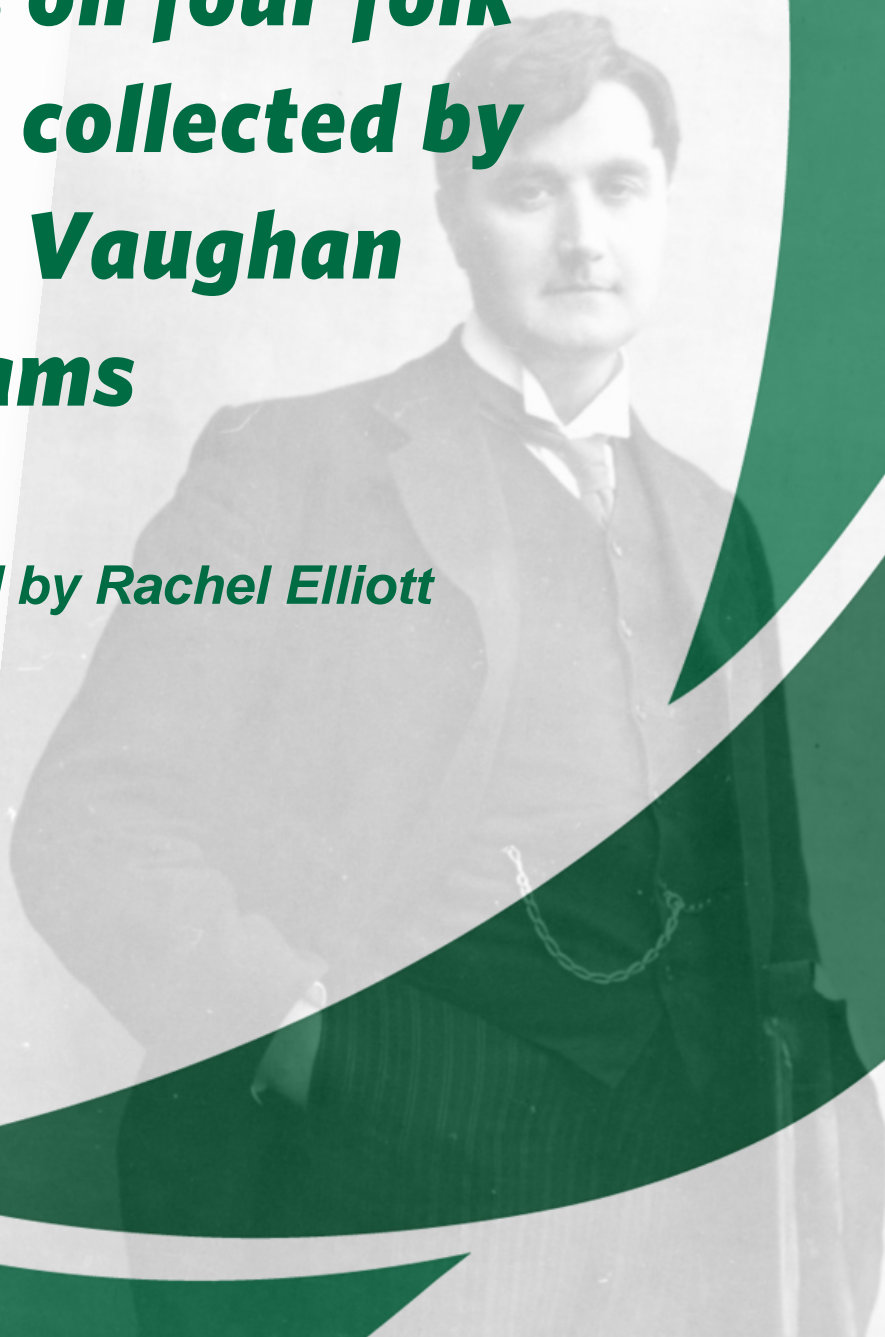




***Notes on four folk
songs collected by
Ralph Vaughan
Williams***

Compiled by Rachel Elliott





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The Full English

The Full English was a unique nationwide project unlocking hidden treasures of England's cultural heritage by making over 58,000 original source documents from 12 major folk collectors available to the world via a ground-breaking nationwide digital archive and learning project. The project was led by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and in partnership with other cultural partners across England.

The Full English digital archive (www.vwml.org) continues to provide access to thousands of records detailing traditional folk songs, music, dances, customs and traditions that were collected from across the country. Some of these are known widely, others have lain dormant in notebooks and files within archives for decades.

The Full English learning programme worked across the country in 19 different schools including primary, secondary and special educational needs settings. It also worked with a range of cultural partners across England, organising community, family and adult learning events.

Supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Folk Music Fund and The Folklore Society.



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Produced by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), June 2014

Compiled by: Rachel Elliott

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Notes on some folk songs collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams

These notes were originally prepared for a workshop delivered at Cecil Sharp House, London, on 16 October 2008 as part of *Living Song* – a folk song and composition project co-devised and delivered by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS) and the Royal College of Music Junior Department (RDMJD).

From 1903 - 1926 the composer Vaughan Williams collected 810 folk songs (the majority collected 1903 – 1913). They were sung to him by singers in mainly rural locations across many counties of England. He recorded 20 of these songs onto wax phonograph cylinder – the rest via notation. He noted the words of only 237 of these songs (often only the first verse)

Tables on some folk songs collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams

EFDSS workshop with RCM Junior Department, 16 October 2008

Well met, well met, OR Daemon Lover					
www.vwml.org/record/RVW2/12/3/261					
Roud Number: 14					
Collected by					
Hammond brothers					
Singer, date and location	Recorded by RVW?	Available in VWML? (Sound recording or text)	Another recording available in VWML?	Arranged by RVW for singers or choir?	Used by RVW in other work/s?
Marina Russell*, January 1907, Upwey, Dorset. (Poor rural woman, famously recorded 100 songs)	No	Sound recording NO, (No English recordings exist) This song suddenly died out in England Text, yes, Bronson's Traditional Tunes	Mike Yates archive at VWML (USA) Singer Doug Wallin Frank Warner collection (USA) Rebecca King Jones There are 300+ other recordings & notations from the US (all in Bronson)	Yes, and titled by him: <i>The Lover's Ghost</i> : Mixed chorus unaccompanied, Stainer and Bell, 1913 (1920) AND <i>In Folk Songs from Newfoundland, vol ii, Ballads No 7, Oxford University Press, 1934</i>	No

Long a Growing OR The trees they do grow high

www.vwml.org/record/RVW2/3/145

Roud Number: 31

Collected by	RVW				
Singer, date and location	Recorded by RVW?	Available in VWML? (Sound recording or text)	Another recording available in VWML?	Arranged by RVW for singers or choir?	Used by RVW in other work/s?
Mr Booker, 8 Nov 1905, Kingsfold, Sussex (copy article from Folk Song Journal c. 1905)	No	No	Many recordings of this song in VWML including... May Bradley, 1960's, Herefordshire, (daughter of one of VW's singers!) Her text varies from typical text). Recorded by Fred Hamer. Composite version for workshop features a number of singers from across the British Isles	No	Quoted in 3 rd movement of 'English Folk Songs: suite for military band', 1923

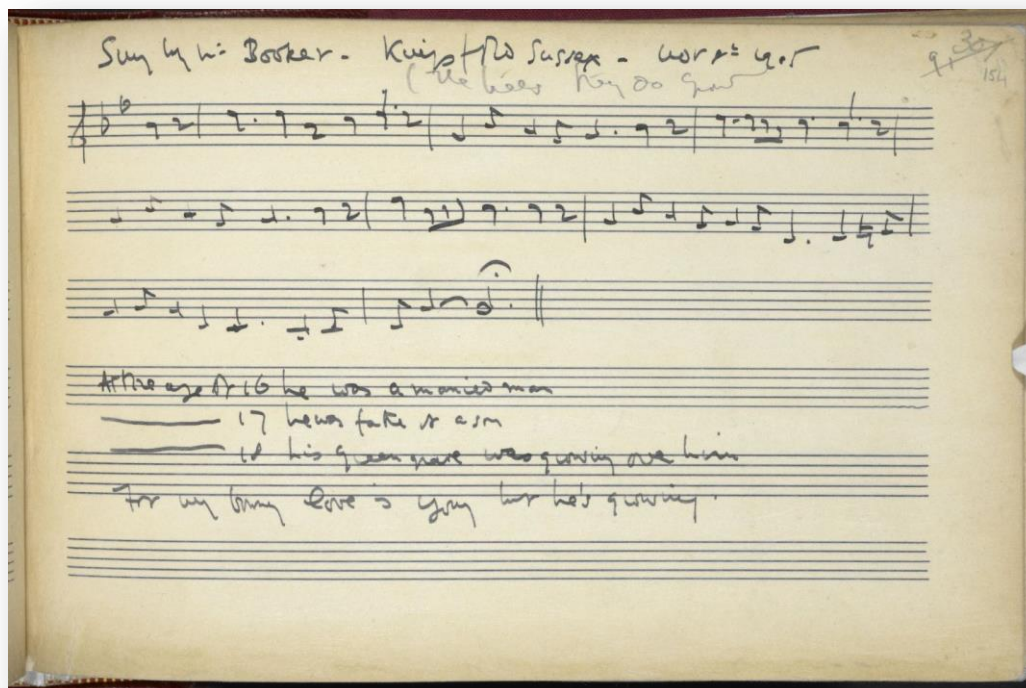


Photo: original manuscript from The Full English digital archive

The Pretty Ploughboy (central song in current NT production <i>The War Horse</i> , song maker John Tams) www.vwml.org/record/RVW2/2/14 Roud Number: 186					
Collected by	RVW				
Singer, date and location	Recorded by RVW?	Available in VWML? (Sound recording or text)	Another recording available in VWML?	Arranged by RVW for singers or choir?	Used by RVW in other work/s?
Charles Pottipher, 22 nd Feb, 1904, Essex David Penfold, date??, Rusper, Sussex	No	Folk Song Journal	Harry Cox, 1934 - 1960, Norfolk & FOR COMPARISON Harry Brazil, 1970's, Gloucestershire (gypsy family) (Many Norfolk versions exist) BBC recordings from 1950's Sussex	Yes <i>Folk Songs from Sussex</i> (song book, editor Cecil Sharp with pianoforte accompaniments by RVW, published by Ivor Novello, 1912)	No

The Turtle Dove www.vwml.org/record/RVW2/3/223 Roud Number: 422					
Collected by	RVW				
Singer, date and location	Recorded by RVW?	Available in VWML? (Sound recording or text)	Another recording available in VWML?	Arranged by RVW for singers or choir?	Used by RVW in other work/s?
David Penfold, Rusper, Sussex	Yes	Yes – but very poor quality, more or less inaudible	Yes – Ella Shellton recorded in the 1950's by Maud Karpeles and many other versions	Yes In 1919 (solo baritone) 1924 (mixed voices with baritone solo) 1934 (unison with pianoforte accompaniment, also available with orchestral instrumentation)	No

Sources

- see article on Edith Sartin, Marina Russel's (nee Sartin) cousin through marriage, by Paul Sartin, EDS Summer 2007)
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