

## **SPECIAL COLLECTIONS NEWS**

### **Spring/Summer 2010**



#### **BRAVO PAXCAT!**

The PaxCat Project has brought the little-known archives collected by Commonweal Library to life. Our Project Archivist, Helen Roberts, has found wonderful resources: letters from a nurse in India in the 1940s, photographs of the very first Aldermaston march in 1952, and the strange story of poisoned milk.

More details on the Project blog:

<http://commonwealarchives.wordpress.com>

Thanks to the National Cataloguing Grants Scheme for funding this project.

We are delighted to announce that further funding has been obtained for Helen to remain with us until July 2010, working on related Quaker archives.

#### **TWEET!**



Short, sweet Special Collections news:

<http://twitter.com/speccollbrad>

New SC web additions, events, cool links, real-time service changes. (Less than 140 characters).

#### **CELEBRATING JACQUETTA**

Archaeologist Jacquetta Hawkes was also a poet, filmmaker, broadcaster, novelist and journalist. In honour of her centenary in 2010, we created a new catalogue of her Archive, detailing the amazing collection of letters from her artistic, literary and archaeological friends, and the photographs that tell her fascinating life story.

<http://www.bradford.ac.uk/library/special/hawkes.php>



Alison Cullingford has created an online exhibit, “Past, Present, Man, Nature”, illustrating aspects of Jacquetta’s life and ideas via chosen archive items: childhood (above), archaeology, love, poetry, travel, fashion, art, and her friends and family.

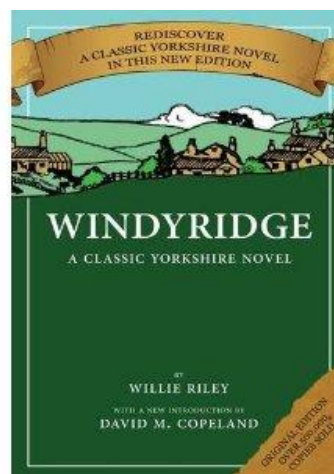
Our Writer-Fellow, Dr Christine Finn, will be talking about Jacquetta at many conferences and other events.

See the exhibition, and find out more about Jacquetta and the celebrations this year on our new Blog:

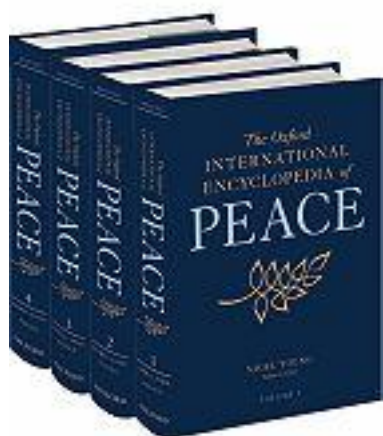
<http://jacquettahawkes.wordpress.com>

## “THE PULL OF THE HEATHER”

We are delighted that a 1912 bestseller which told a charming tale of life in Yorkshire is being republished. Willie Riley’s *Windyridge* tells the story of Grace Holden, a London girl who, feeling “the pull of the heather”, moves to Yorkshire. Critics compared it to *Cranford*. The book is republished in hardback and paperback by Northern Heritage Publications, with a detailed introduction by Riley researcher David Copeland and photographs of the moorland settings.



Willie Riley later wrote over 30 other best-selling books, set in recognisable Yorkshire locations (with lightly disguised names). Special Collections is receiving his archive, which will be a fantastic resource for scholars, rich in detail about Riley’s literary career, ideas and his world. We also have the Autobiography and Eastern Journey of his father Joseph, a rather unfortunate, deeply religious Bradford entrepreneur, whose facility with language shows again in Willie’s writings.

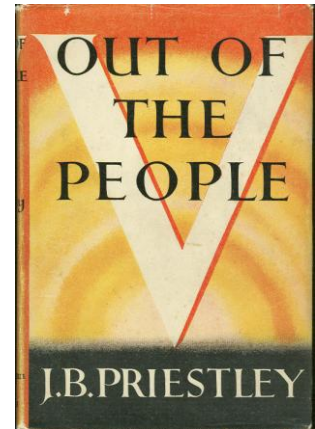


## PEACEPEDIA

Launched in March at the University of Bradford, the Oxford International Encyclopedia of Peace is a comprehensive resource for peace studies, including key people, events, and ideas. Published in four volumes by Oxford University Press, the encyclopedia is edited by former Bradford colleague Professor Nigel Young. The contributors include Alison Cullingford, John Horton, Caro Noake and many other University of Bradford and Commonwealth people.

## PRIESTLEY'S FINEST HOUR

Seventy years ago, on Wednesday 5 June 1940, just after the evacuation of Dunkirk, J.B. Priestley began a BBC radio broadcast with the words, "I wonder how many of you feel as I do about this great Battle and evacuation of Dunkirk". This was the first of his famous Postscripts, in which he reflected on shared experiences, tried to boost morale, and encourage people to think about changing society so that the mistakes made after World War 1 would not be repeated.

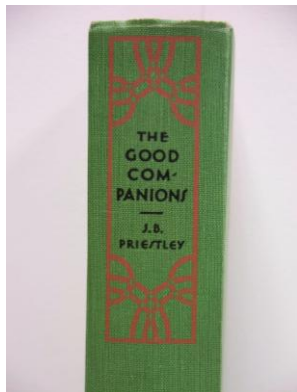


BBC Radio 4 recorded a documentary about these remarkable broadcasts in the Special Collections Reading Room. We surrounded our presenters (John Baxendale and Martin Wainwright) with archives and books from Priestley's war. The programme was broadcast as part of a Priestley mini-season

Over Summer 2010, Alison Cullingford will blog about the Postscripts, and how they link to Priestley's other works, following the timeline as closely as possible:

<http://specialcollectionsbradford.wordpress.com>

## COPAC AND ARCHIVES HUB



Special Collections includes many rare printed books, journals, and maps, including:

- a huge collection of J.B. Priestley's works.
- thousands of rare volumes on radical politics, philosophy and esoterica collected by Dimitrije Mitrinović and his New Atlantis circle.
- maps and rare books concerning Yorkshire, mining and Quakers gathered by Arthur Raistrick.

Thanks to the COPAC Challenge Fund, academics, students, librarians and other interested people can find out about these resources via the COPAC database. COPAC, which is free to users, is enormous and heavily used, with over 30 million catalogue records from UK university and other libraries, and over 500,000 searches per month.

<http://www.copac.ac.uk>

COPAC is looked after by the same team that run the Archives Hub, which raises awareness of archive collections. The Archives Hub has had a makeover recently, and we have added many new collections to it as a result of the PaxCat Project.

<http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk>

## POTENTIAL GRADUATES ONLINE

A much-loved piece of the University of Bradford's history is now available online for free. The film, "Potential Graduate" was made by the Audio-Visual Unit between 1968 and 1970 to attract potential students. It gives a wonderful insight into the University, the campus, student life, and how Bradford looked then. This image is from a prospectus from the same era.

Thanks to Heritage Lottery funding, the Yorkshire Film Archive is making this film available online, along with 21 hours of themed footage from all over Yorkshire. To see the film, search "Potential Graduate" on the YFA online project website.

<http://www.yfaonline.com/>

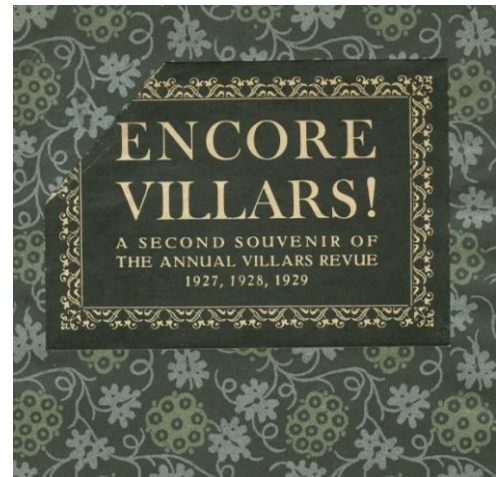


## IMAGE OF THE MONTH MARCH: YOU MADE ME SHOVE YOU

Christian socialist writer Maurice Reckitt and his brother Geoffrey took part in the Villars Revue while on winter sports holidays in Villars-sur-Ollon, Switzerland. The revue was first held in 1914, imitating successful ragtime revues, and revived 1920-1931.

Maurice Reckitt wrote lyrics and performed on the piano. Souvenirs of the revues were privately printed as *Hullo Villars!* *Encore Villars!* and *Au Revoir Villars!*

The performances were rich in ski-themed parodies of popular songs e.g. "You made me shove you" (a skating duet), "Let's do it (let's go and ski)".



## FURTHER INFORMATION

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Website: <http://www.brad.ac.uk/library/special>

We welcome feedback about this newsletter or any other aspect of our service. Text by Alison Cullingford. Photography and digitisation by John Brooker. © University of Bradford.

Images: "Bravo!" sun Cwl HBP 23, "Tweet!" dipper HAW 1/2, "Potential" students UNI X955 L14.