

Treasures from Our Archives

John Leeder

Twenty Years Ago

Bulletin 25.2 (Summer 1991). Lynn Whidden was editor, Murray Evans and Lei Anne Sharratt guest-edited. Contents: “Canadian Folk Festival 1991”, “The Folk Festival” (a poem) and a controversial commentary, “The Truth about Folk Festivals”, by Mitch Podolak.

Fifteen Years Ago

Bulletin 30.2 (June 1996). Seminal Canadian folksinger Alan Mills was remembered in this issue, in articles by Vera Johnson, Bram Morrison and Edith Fowke; songs “Isabeau s’y promène” and “The Chesapeake and the Shannon”, from Mills’ repertoire, accompanied the article. Joe Adams’ song “Cabin Fever Blues” and poem “A Tribute to Harry Miller” were included, plus the festival directory, columns EthnoFolk Letters (Judith Cohen), Over the Waves (Tom Coxworth) and The Centrefold (various), and plenty of reviews.

Ten Years Ago

Bulletin 35.2 (Summer 2001). An interview with Anita Best, conducted by Elinor Benjamin, was the showpiece of this issue. Songs included two written by the late Graham Jones, “Nancy’s to the Lambing Gone” and “Raise a Glass”, plus traditional “The Wind Blows High”, “Pesticide-Free Garden” by editor Lorne Brown, and “The Golden Vanity” as Ballad of the Month. The column A Mari Usque... was extensive, reporting on events across Canada. As usual, there were numerous reviews.

Five Years Ago

CFM 40.2 (Summer 2006). A couple of articles on Newfoundland music keyed this issue: E. David Gregory’s “Vernacular Song, Cultural Identity, and Nationalism in Newfoundland, 1920-1955” and Terry McDonald’s “Proud to be an Islander: Newfoundland Identity as Revealed Through Newfoundland Song”. Norman Stanfield contributed “The Past President Looks at the Past”. Several letters (including Rika Ruebsaat’s announcement that she would not stand for re-election as President), Rosaleen Gregory’s Singing the Child Ballads column, the

usual reviews, and the 2005 Table of Contents made up the balance of the content.

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