

Charles Parker Day 2009

10.30 - 16.30, Friday, 3 April 2009

The National Media Museum, Bradford

In association with the Centre for Broadcasting History Research,
Bournemouth University.

2009 sees the 90th anniversary of the birth of the radio producer Charles Parker, and the 50th anniversary of the first transmission of *Song of a Road*, the second Radio Ballad, chronicling the building of the M1 Motorway (which also celebrates its 50th birthday this year). This, the 6th Charles Parker Day conference includes presentations reflecting all aspects of Parker's work, as well as papers on related subjects and personalities.

Peter Cox, author of *Set Into Song*, a widely praised book on the Radio Ballads, will explore the evolution of the production process through the Ballads, while Paul Long and Mary Irwin will reflect on the insider view production, professional culture and politics within the BBC as provided by Parker's friend and colleague, Philip Donnellan in his (as yet unpublished) autobiography. There will also be a showing of Donnellan's BBC Omnibus film, *Pure Radio*, which includes footage of Parker at work.

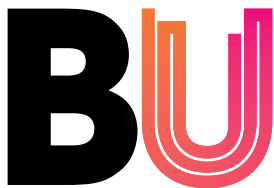
The day will also include a talk on the work of Reggie Smith, the legendary BBC Producer, communist and husband of Olivia Manning by Gerry Harrison, who is working on a book on Smith, a presentation by Jacqueline Contre of Banner Theatre on connecting with audiences through cultural diversity, and a tribute to the late Nigel Acheson by Simon Elmes, Creative Director, Documentaries and Features, BBC Radio.

Booking Details:

National Media Museum, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 1NQ

Box Office: 0870 7010200 (8.30am - 8.30pm)

Conference fee: £10.00



**Bournemouth
University**

Institute for
Media & Communication Research
www.bournemouth.ac.uk/imcr

Centre for Broadcasting History Research
Director: Professor Sean Street FRSA

The Media School

Denis Mitchell: Pioneer of Poetic Documentary

The Centre for Broadcasting History Research will host a tribute to documentary filmmaker Denis Mitchell at Lighthouse, Poole's Centre for the Arts, on Wednesday 25 March 2009. Marking the 50th anniversary of the television documentary *Morning in the Streets*, the retrospective will focus on Mitchell's little-known and fascinating BBC radio work during the mid 1950s, as well as his later television work for the BBC and independent television companies during the late 1950s and 1960s.

There will be screenings of film prints of *Morning in the Streets* and several other documentaries, which will be introduced by key colleagues and friends of the filmmaker.

Several keynote speakers will give papers, including:

- **Michael Darlow** on his experiences of working with Mitchell at Granada
- **Philip Purser** on Mitchell's place in television history
- **John Corner** on Mitchell and 'documentary voices'.

The event will explore vital issues surrounding the representation of the working classes on radio and television, as well as wider issues in documentary and broadcasting history. The event will be of particular interest to students of radio, film and television production. Denis Mitchell is still regarded as the most influential British television documentarian, and this an ideal opportunity to pay tribute to his unique contributions to the form.

**For tickets (£10, £8 concessions) please contact
Lighthouse, Poole's Centre for the Arts, on 0844 406 8666.**