



# 10TH ANNUAL CHARTIST CONVENTION



at the  
**John Frost School, Newport**  
9.30am to 4.30pm Saturday 5 November 2016

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**KEYNOTE SPEAKER: MALCOLM CHASE**

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2016

2016

**With a supporting cast of**



**The John Frost School Choir**

**Katrina Navikas**

**Peter Strong**

**Les James**

**Sarah Richards**

**Dr Elin Jones**

**Richard Frame**

**Catrin Edwards**



**OUR CHARTIST HERITAGE**

# 10th ANNUAL CHARTIST CONVENTION 2016

Saturday 5th November 10.00 - 16.30  
John Frost School, Newport

For the first time, the annual Chartist Convention will be held in John Frost School (formerly Duffryn High School). The school now bears the name of the iconic Newport Chartist, and pupils will pay tribute to the Chartists through musical and other artistic contributions during the day.



The keynote speaker this year is **Professor Malcolm Chase** of Leeds University, who will explore Welsh Chartism in the aftermath of the Newport Rising of November 1839. Professor Chase is an old friend of the Convention. His central academic 'focus in recent years has been on radical politics in British history during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. He has published a number of books in this field, which include ***Chartism: A New History*** (2007) and ***The Chartists: Perspectives and Legacies*** (2015).

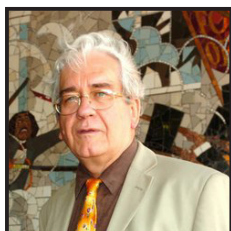
Other speakers at the Convention include **Dr. Katrina Navickas** of the University of Hertfordshire. An expert on radical protest in Lancashire and the West Riding of Yorkshire, Dr. Navickas has published a wide-ranging survey of the rise of mass movements in northern England, ***Protest and the Politics of Space and Place, 1789-1848*** (2015). Her presentation will contain elements of this research and, in particular, her work with the Digital Team at the British Library to develop a tool called ***Political Meetings Mapper***.



In many ways this approach mirrors some of the areas addressed in Wales by the **Cynefin Project** and ***Trails to Trials: Chartism in Gwent***.

Historians have always found newspapers to be a vital source of data but, with this new tool, notices of meetings can be now extracted and plotted on layers of historical maps. Meetings listed in ***The Northern Star***, for example, can be used to create a new landscape of spatial patterns that will help shed light on many of the questions that have previously gone unanswered.

**Peter Strong** gave us a fascinating insight into the legal process during the trials of the Welsh Chartists in 1840 at last year's Convention. This year he will speak on ***Henry Vincent's 1849 Monmouthshire Lectures.***



**Les James and Sarah Richards** will report to the Convention on recent developments in their research on aspects of Welsh Chartism.

In addition, **Dr. Elin Jones** and **Catrin Edwards** will provide a presentation entitled ***Making History: developing a television programme about the Chartists.***



In attendance will be representatives from Gwent Archives, Gwent County History, Gwent Family History Association, Newport Civic Society, the Friends of the Newport Ship, the Friends of Newport Museum and Art Gallery and the Bristol Radical History Society.

## **Convention Programme**

### **Morning Session (Chair Dr. Elin Jones)**

- 09.30 Registration and coffee.
- 10.00 Welcome and introduction by Dr. Elin Jones
- 10.10 Peter Strong: Demosthenes' Return: Henry Vincent's 1849 Monmouthshire lectures.
- 10.40 The John Frost School Choir Chartist Songs
- 11.00 Coffee/tea break.
- 11.15 Dr. Katrina Navickas: The Spaces of Chartism.
- 12.15 Lunch - Stalls, exhibitions, etc.

### **Afternoon Session (Chair Richard Frame)**

- 13.30 Dr. Elin Jones and Catrin Edwards: Making History: developing a television programme about the Chartists.
- 14.15 Malcolm Chase: Looking beyond November 1839.
- 15.15 Coffee/ tea break.
- 15.30 Les James and Sarah Richards: Report on recent research.
- 16.00 Concluding remarks.

## OUR CHARTIST HERITAGE

**Our Chartist Heritage** aims to “advance the education of the public in the history and heritage of the Chartist movement and other similar reform movements, and to advance the education of the public in civic responsibility and good citizenship”. We aspire to raise the profile of the Chartist heritage of Wales, so that this area becomes more widely known nationally and internationally as the location of one of the most significant events in that shaped British democracy: the Newport Rising. We advocate the development of assets that reinforce this heritage so that it supports the marketing of the city for tourism, education and investment purposes. We aim to influence public opinion, local authority action and national policy in the promotion of our Chartist heritage. We encourage participation in the democratic process with conferences, festivals, exhibitions and educational programmes. We raise funds for the conservation and interpretation of Chartist related items. We also organise regular talks and meetings and produce a variety of leaflets, posters and information pamphlets. Thank you for your support of this convention. We welcome volunteers to assist in our aims.

## FORTHCOMING CHARTIST EVENTS

**Nov 04 to Jan14- EXHIBITION A Chandelier Pennies for the People by David Garner at Newport Art Gallery** Comprising two intrinsically linked pieces, inspired by the penny in the museum collection inscribed ‘Frost - Set Him Free’.

**Wed Nov 23 at 7pm at NEWPORT MUSEUM & ART GALLERY** David Garner, artist, talks about his New Work on exhibition, accompanied on the harp by Rhodri Davies. A video *Call and Response* presented with the improvised harp playing of Rhodri Davies at the Chart’ist Cave, Llangyndir

**Sat Nov 12 1.30pm \_ LECTURE -BigPit Blaenavon NP49 6AA tel: 0300111 2333** STORY of FROST, WILLIAMS, JONES Transported Welsh Chartists. Les James (2015) discusses ‘surveillance and entrapment’ aboard the Mandarin convict ship (1840) and the efforts made by British state officials to keep John Frost out of British political life.

**‘DEATH OR LIBERTY’ - Australian TV film tour**

Dr. Tony Moore (Monash University, Australia), author and film maker will introduce and discuss his docudrama about Welsh Chartist and Irish Rebel prisoners sent for transportation to Port Arthur

For a trailer of the film: **‘DEATH OR LIBERTY’** <https://vimeo.com/138727813>

**Thurs Nov 24 3.00pm - ‘DEATH OR LIBERTY’ - at THE ATRIUM**, University of South Wales, CARDIFF CF10 2HA Voluntary donations invited; Free to Students; Contact: [les.iames22@gmail.com](mailto:les.iames22@gmail.com)

**Thurs 24 Nov 7.30 pm - ‘DEATH OR LIBERTY’ - at The CWTSH**, Handpost, NP20 4HA £5 on the door (E3 concessions) , book your reservations [david-osmond@hotmail.com](mailto:david-osmond@hotmail.com)

**Fri 25 Nov 7.00 pm \_ ‘DEATH OR LIBERTY’- at SHIRE HALL**, Agincourt Square, NP25 3DY Tel. 01600 775257 [enquiries@shirehallmonmouth.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@shirehallmonmouth.org.uk) Reception desk open 10.00 16.00 hrs (Mon- Sat) £3 advance booking (£4 on the door), Students £2

**Fri 25 Nov 2pm - 4pm OPEN FORUM at GWENT ARCHIVES**, Steel Works Road, Ebbw Vale NP23 6AA Discussion: The need for a transnational Political Convicts Research Project. How might our communities participate/ promote/ use/contribute to the project?

Panel: Dr. Tony Moore, Dr. Nick Carter, Paul Smith, (Australia); TonyHopkins, Colin Gibson (Gwent Archives), Les James (Editor, CHARTISM e-Mag), Pat Drewett (Our Chartist Heritage)

Open to all - Essential to book your free place: [enquiries@gwentarchives.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@gwentarchives.gov.uk) tel: 01495 353363

**Wed 31Nov A WALK TO THE CHARTIST CAVES**, Tredegar. Led by Alyson Tippings. Meet at Tafarn Ty Uchaf, (Top House) Trefil Tredegar Post Code NP22 4HD at 9.30 for a 10.00 start. Grid Ref SO 119 128. The walk is approx. 3 miles with strenuous sections where some exertion will be required. Appropriate clothing and footwear should be worn. It would be good to have some refreshments in the cave so bring you ‘elevenses’ with you. Following the walk there are excellent local hostellers for lunches.