



# New FSC Songbook 2026

August 2024

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# We are planning a new FSC Songbook for 2026

## Context:

- FSC started in 1947. Since at least Jan 1968, there has been a printed songbook. The songs are a mixture of English and British traditional folk, traditional songs from other countries, and pop songs. Songbooks are usually updated every 3-6 years. Our current songbook dates from 2017 and was the largest ever

## Complications:

- The world has moved on since 2017. A number of campers are uncomfortable with some of the lyrics and songs we sing as a number of them have overtones of or outright misogyny, racism, and ableism. A project called “Conscious Songbook” launched 4 years ago to try to work out these issues
- We recognise that FSC’s folk legacy is extremely important and valuable. There is a tension between preserving songs, and updating them for modern world
- There may be an anecdotal Covid effect where our young staff are less familiar with songs than in previous years; FSC has a huge bulk of staff in their early 20s

## Proposed solution:

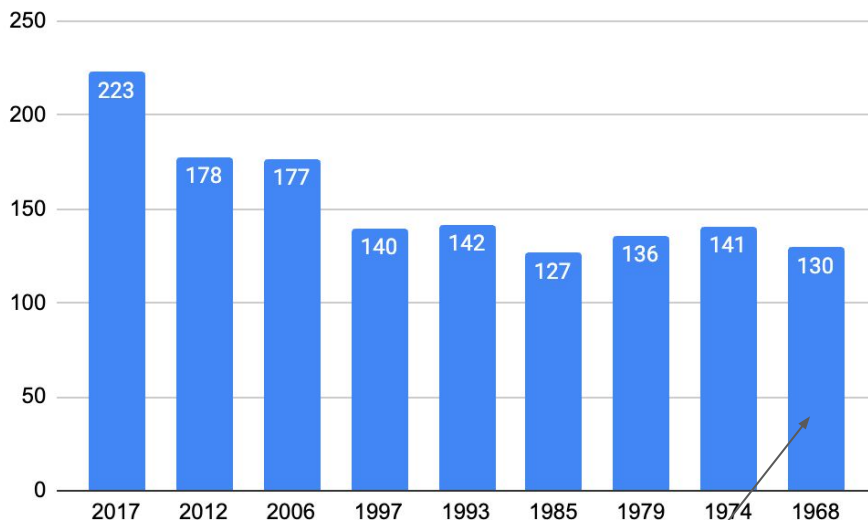
- We believe it is time to do a fairly significant update to the 2017 songbook, aka “The 2026”. This needs to address the issues raised by individuals, leverage the work the Conscious Songbook team have done, and preserve our history.



# The 2017 songbook is long on male perspective and authorship...

## Songbooks over last 50 years, by number of songs

Source: [glee.org.uk/songbooks](http://glee.org.uk/songbooks)



First ever printed FSC songbook  
(handwritten from 1963)

## Some gender data on the SB

- 287 mentions of man/men vs 25 mentions of woman/women
- 3 solo female authors, 40 solo male authors
- 1 song solo authored & attributed by a non-FSC woman (*Freight Train*) vs 40 by men
- 85-90% of songs where gender is clear written from a male perspective or about male protagonist
- 5 songs written by men from a female perspective (*Harriet Tubman*, *I am weary*, *Mrs McGrath*, *Rickety Tlckety Tin*, *Maids when you're young*) is more than 3 solo female authors



# ... and concerns are raised about its racism, misogyny and ableism. Views from 2024 camps

“Pathfinders weren't sure about the West Indies/Jamaican songs that we sing (Banana Boat Song, Jamaican Farewell etc) and didn't know **why we were singing those songs and how their context was connected to FSC.**”

“My partner's not an FSC person and **she was pretty shocked by some of the songs we sing** after looking in the songbook in terms of their misogyny and racist overtones.”

“Songbook is **already quite long** and a lot of people, especially young staff, **don't know many of the songs in it:** basically we seemed to sing The Larks on repeat.”

“**No one disagrees that something needs doing - but opinions vary on what should be done!**”

“There's concern about the fact that **changing verse order in different songbooks can be annoying.**”

“Whilst a queer woman felt that none of the songs were specifically for her, she also said that some of our songs about women worked for her”

“We **struggled to find a female solidarity song in the entire songbook** - and had to settle for Harriet Tubman”

“I started camping in the 1960s. I think FSC had an **issue with slightly pervy older men and younger women and the songbook still reflects that** - it needs changing.”



# Things we did between July - Sept 2024

- Digitised songbooks from 1968 to present day
- Analysed this to work out which songs are in which songbook
- Spoke to summer camp Gleaders and got feedback on specific problematic songs
- Converted 2017 songbook from PDF into an editable format
- Attributed and dated all except about 20 songs from the 224 songs currently in the 2017 songbook
- Added context to around 100 songs in footnotes
- Agreed some (fairly) uncontroversial changes to specific songs after discussions and ideas
- Discussed some great new ideas e.g. multiple songbooks
- Started tweaking the 2026 songbook text based on previous copy-editing changes

## Sources

- Previous songbooks
- Songbook analysis
- Camp and lodge views
- Conscious songbook essays
- Jon Boden's website
- Sam Lee's 2006 document
- Mainly Norfolk
- <https://ballads.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>
- General internet research on the folk record



# 43% of songs from the original 1968 remain in the 2017 edition; songs shift across the years

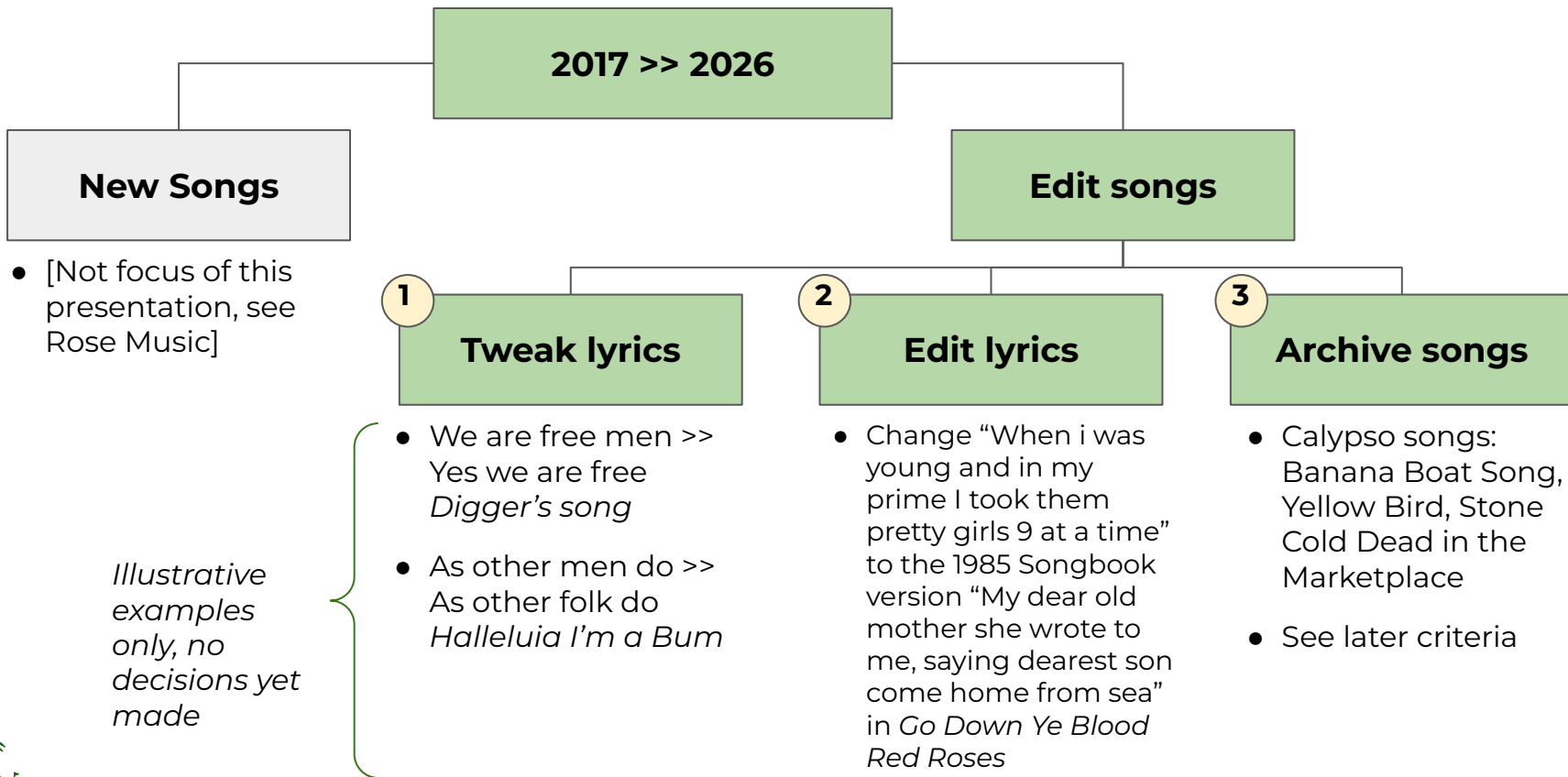
What songs are in each songbook?									
	2017	2012	2006	1997	1993	1985	1979	1974	1968
<b>Total number of songs</b>	223	178	177	140	142	127	136	141	130
A Bi O	y		y						
A la claire fontaine									y
A-roving				y	y	y			
Abdul e Bulbul Amir								y	
Ain't going to be treated this way									y
Ain't Gonna Study War	y								
Alcohol	y	y	y	y					
All my trials				y	y	y	y	y	y
All on the Shore	y								
All the pretty little horses									y
All Things Shall Perish	y	y	y		y	y	y	y	y
Alouette								y	y
Alphonso Spagoni									y
Anchored in Love	y	y							
Angel Band	y	y	y						
Angels (All Night, All Day)	y	y	y						
Animal Fair	y	y	y					y	
Arise song 1	y	y	y			y	y	y	y
Arise song 2	y	y	y			y	y	y	y
As I Roved Out	y								
Auld Triangle	y		y	y					y
Aunt Rhody					y		y	y	y
Aupres de ma blonde									y
Away with Rum								y	y
Ballad of Lou Marsh	y	y	y	y	y		y	y	y

## How songs change over the years

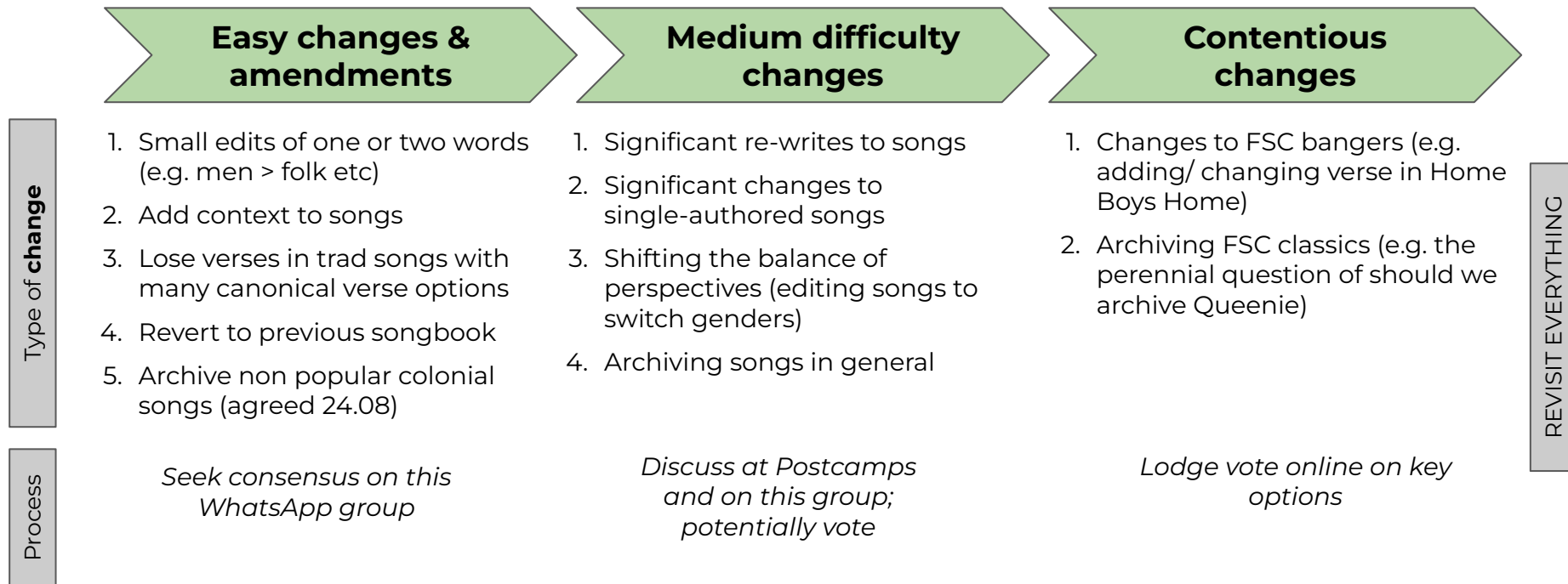
- 57 songs from the original 130 in the original 1968 songbook are still in the 2017 (i.e. 43% remain)
- It's unclear exactly why songs are removed and added, but three things are notable:
  - Glee Committee has always been very clear in the notes that it's at their discretion (and they're anonymous)
  - Pop songs tend to churn (e.g. Beatles etc)
  - Some songs have presumably been removed due to unsuitability (Black Girl, Wild Colonial Boy)
- Surprisingly, often FSC seems to sing more misogynistic lyrics than are common in the folk scene (Come Landlord; Go Down You Blood Red Roses): & in the latter case the verse "I used to take them yellin' girls 9 at a time" was actually added for the 1997 songbook



# So how do we change the songbook to the 2026?



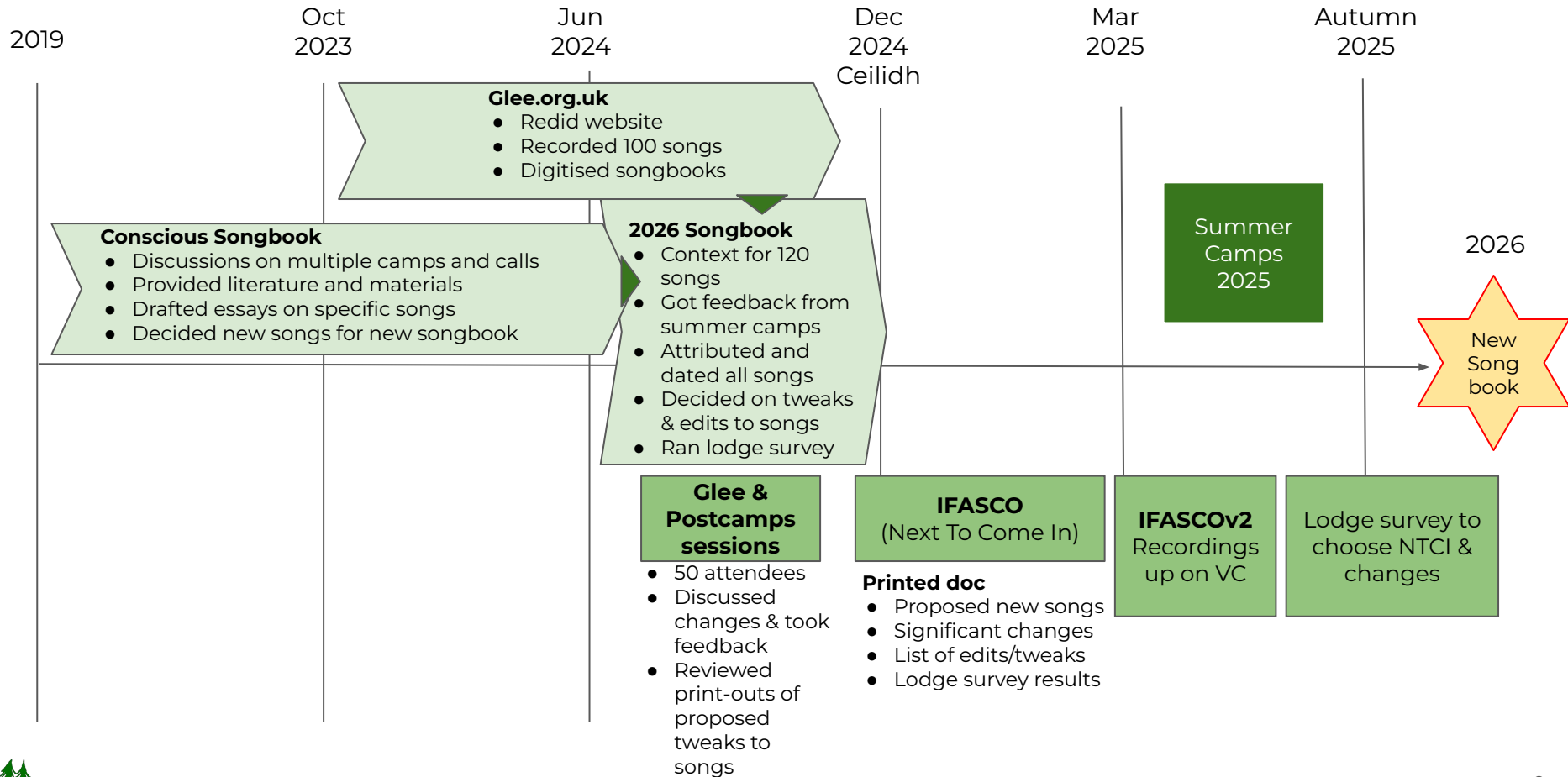
# Process: aim to do as much by consensus as possible and vote on the rest\*



**\*Note: FSC has always created new songbooks by an anonymous Glee Committee. I want to try an alternative of radical transparency & getting viewpoints and buy-in from anyone interested via the Glee and Our Songs WhatsApp, conversations, and lodge surveys.**







# Easy changes: agreed in draft form 29.08.24

	Easy changes & amendments	Medium difficulty changes	Contentious changes
Type of change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Small edits of one or two words (e.g. men &gt; folk etc)</li><li>2. Add context to songs</li><li>3. Lose verses in trad songs with many canonical verse options</li><li>4. Revert to previous songbook</li><li>5. Archive non popular colonial songs (agreed 24.08)</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Significant re-writes to songs</li><li>2. Significant changes to single-authored songs</li><li>3. Shifting the balance of perspectives (editing songs to switch genders)</li><li>4. Archiving songs in general</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Changes to FSC bangers (e.g. adding/ changing verse in Home Boys Home)</li><li>2. Archiving FSC classics (e.g. the perennial question of should we archive Queenie)</li></ol>
Process	<p><i>Seek consensus on this WhatsApp group</i></p>	<p><i>Discuss at Postcamps and on this group; potentially vote</i></p>	<p><i>Lodge vote online on key options</i></p>



# Song context: examples

## Context guidelines:

- Footnotes included for interest and expanded to contextualisation for problematic songs
- Attempt to attribute songs, and make note of instances of complexity in attribution
- Provide translations, or descriptions of meaning, for songs in foreign languages
- Max of 100 words
- Provide both traditional and modified verses where necessary (not in the case of tweaks)

### **White Cockade**

*More than 100 years old, this song was popular across the country but particularly in the mining districts of the North of England. A cockade is a coloured rosette that would be worn by soldiers to distinguish sides in battle.*

### **Tshotsholoza**

*This song was sung by African migrant workers travelling from Zimbabwe (at the time under the control of the unrecognized apartheid state of Rhodesia) to work in the mines of apartheid South Africa. It became an iconic song in the international anti-Apartheid movement.*

### **Wade in the water**

*Wade in the water is a 'spiritual' (see glossary), a genre of song written and sung by enslaved African-Americans living in plantations in the USA. The instruction to 'Wade in the water' is thought by some to be a coded message to aid those trying to escape enslavement; by wading in rivers or streams the scent of someone escaping enslavement could not be picked up by pursuers.*

### **Take this hammer**

*Following the abolition of slavery in the United States, many primarily African-American prisoners were used as forced labour in mines, railroads, or breaking rocks on the side of roads. These 'chain gangs' sang rhythmic songs, known as 'Roll Songs' (see glossary) to punctuate their labour, many of which related to escape from prison or folk heroes such as 'John Henry'. Take this Hammer is a typical example of this genre.*



# Song tweaks / edits: illustrative examples

## Edit guidelines:

- Keep changes as minimal as possible: be parsimonious even with tweaks
- Keep same type of syllables or sound where at all possible; sentences should scan the same
- Try to return to original or older verses where there are alternatives available (e.g. in sea shantys) rather than making them up
- Don't make changes unless there's problematic lyrics (or it's copy-editing issues), we want to keep the "FSC-isms"

### ***Diggers' Song***

*We are free men > Yes we are free*

### ***Jug of Punch***

*Even the cripple forgets his hunch > even gluttons forget their lunch*

### ***Halleluija I'm a Bum***

*Oh why don't you work, as other men do > as other folk do*

### ***South Australia***

*There's plenty of girls to go around > there's plenty of rum to go around*

### ***Old Dun Cow***

*Do not change FSC version "face just like a kite" to canonical version "face all chalky white"*



# Agreed changes (agreed by broad consensus on FSC Glee and our songs WhatsApp, draft only)

## Agreed to archive 3 songs people felt were colonial and / or racist, plus unpopular

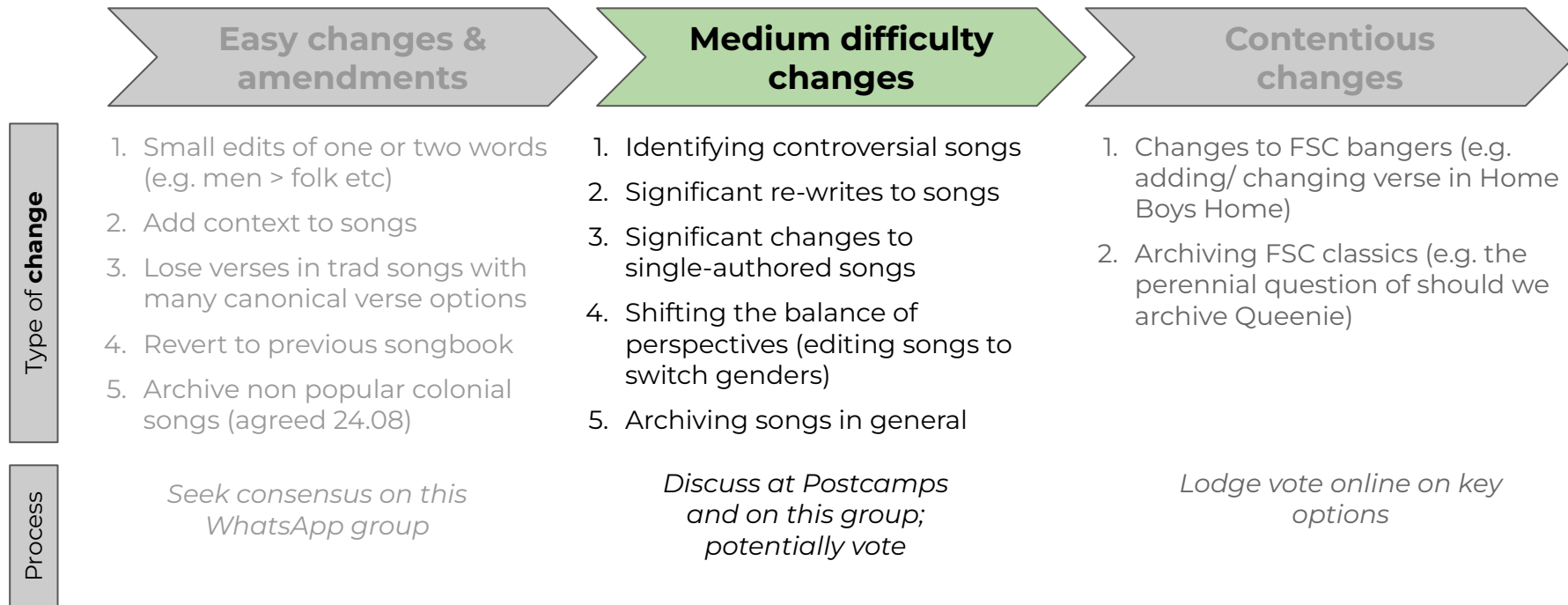
- Banana Boat Song, Stone Cold Dead in the Marketplace, Yellow Bird

## Agreed tweaks and returning

- **Clementine:** Revert to original 1884
- **Diggers song:** Replace “We are free men” with “yes we are free”
- **Drunken Sailor:** Replace “lock him in the cabin with the Captain’s daughter” with “till he’s two foot shorter”
- **Five hundred miles:** Revert to folk heroine Hedy West’s original classic text
- **Go Down You Blood Red Roses:** Revert to the 1908s-1990s FSC songbook text
- **Halleluia I’m a Bum:** Replace “men” with “folk” - “why don’t you work as other men do?”
- **Jug of punch:** Remove “even the cripple forgets his hunch”, replace “even gluttons forget their lunch”
- **Manchester Rambler:** I am a free man >> I have my freedom; plus “we” to “I” in “we went for a ramble instead”
- **Process Man:** change “fellows” to “people” “Come all you young fellows and a warning hear me say”
- **Shawneetown:** Replace “wife” with “friend” - “I’ve got a wife in Louisville..”
- **South Australia:** Replace “girls” with “rum” - “Port Adelaide is a fair old town, there’s plenty of girls to go around”
- **Yellow Roses:** Replace “all men are equal” with “we all are equal”



# Medium difficulty changes



# More controversial songs

## Sexism, misogyny

- *Banks of the Ohio*
- *Chicken on a Raft*
- *Come Landlord*
- *Fathom the bowl*
- *Hesitation Blues*
- *Home Boys Home*
- *Kilgary Mountain*
- *My Girl's a Corker*
- *Old Joe Clarke*
- *Queenie*

## Substance abuse

- *Alcohol*
- *Snow Sniffin' Lament*
- *Big Rock Candy*

## Racist tropes

- *John Kanakanaka*
- *Shenandoah*
- *Shawneetown*
- *Shallow Brown*
- *Whistling Gypsy Rover*

## Appropriation

- *A Bi O*
- *Hill & Gully*
- *Jamaica Farewell*
- *Swing Low*

## Other

- *Seven drunken nights*

**Context:** we've added attribution (date, author where relevant) to all except about 20 songs we couldn't find, and we've added context to around 100 songs, including traditional african american songs. Including but not limited to:

- *Aint gonna study war*
- *Angels (all night, all day)*
- *Take this hammer.*
- *Wade in the Water*
- *Worried Man*

*If you are worried we might have missed a song which you think needs context, please check out file 2408 2026 Songbook first cut (EK, CM), linked here:*

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cVgJw7PtBN0yEvpYIyRDdDhr2pDAYDZfwI7J-3NC5Wk/edit>

*We will be doing later call-outs for editing the context so do let us know if you want to be involved and help out.*



# Medium difficulty songs, changes agreed (approx 11-16 Sept 2024)

## Things agreed

- **Kilgarry Mountain:** change to “devil take that women for she never could be easy”
- **Big Rock Candy Mountains:** following discussions about substance abuse, someone to come up with minimalist tweak alternatives for cigarette (e.g. peppermint) plus trickling streams of alcohol & lakes of whisky and put updated proposal to lodge vote.
- **Home Boys Home:** put it to lodge vote with one option being the woodling girls' verse suggestion (and the other options being keep as is, or remove altogether).
- **John Kanakanaka:** archive it due to extremely intrinsic and often-repeated racist slur. Welcome it back in future songbook if anyone can come up with a non-slur alternative.
- **John Ball:** switch “and tell it to them all” to “and Johanna Ferroure” which also has precedent in wider folk as some singing it
- **Jamaica Farewell:** keep it with added context, switch “husky” to “ackee rice”, and “leave a little girl” to “leave the one I love”.
- **Seven Drunken Nights:** remove the last two verses, returning to the pre-2006 FSC version.
- **Banks of the Ohio:** probably a lodge vote on “keep, kill, edit”. Either someone to come up with an edited version for lodge to respond to or that to happen afterwards if edit is the decision.
- **Shallow Brown:** keep it but ensure that context includes the discussions from this chat (e.g. the possible-but-disputed origin of the word shallow).
- **Fathom the bowl:** revert to current ‘optional’ verse
- **Old Joe Clark:** someone to come up with a better proposal for replacement verses and take a lodge vote on “keep as is vs adopt edited version.”
- **Old Dun Cow:** keep face just like a kite as appears to be cockney vernacular
- **Midnight Special:** keep jumpin judy verse, do not provide context of child sex worker
- **Snow sniffin Lament:** archive this - mocks addicts, unsuitable content for kids, lends itself to oral tradition





# Likely criteria for archiving a song (a section at the back with titles of “other songs to sing”)

**A song is more likely to be archived if it does not have the following attributes:**

- Popular and frequently sung
- Female / marginalised perspectives / author / composer / collector
- Old and important in the folk canon
- Liked and sung by children
- Repeated presence in historic FSC songbooks and continued singing

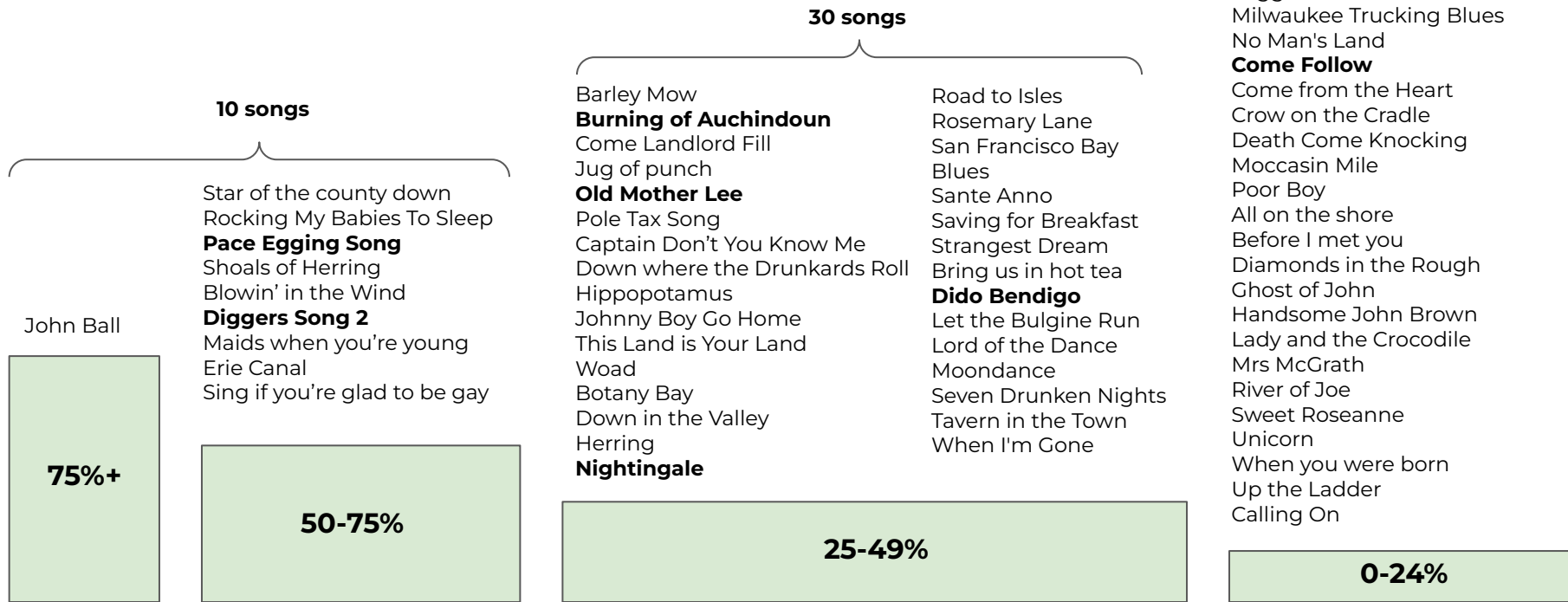
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/108OL8j4vsu64aHYnPh262HjHZMRLQOAxAA6kOwE-3Q/edit#responses>



Link to the survey

# Songs unsung early thoughts

Songs by percentage of people who wanted to keep (n=18)



**Bold** indicates important in the wider folk canon

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1a6zAo\\_wUnAMx3tqpPkQ3x\\_HZtzY0U8HTwObzYtQ0g2U/edit?gid=239656](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1a6zAo_wUnAMx3tqpPkQ3x_HZtzY0U8HTwObzYtQ0g2U/edit?gid=239656)

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Link to the Excel

# Things to consider in archiving songs

- It is important to preserve songs. And feedback from this group indicates that some find it annoying looking for a song and not finding it in the songbook. But keeping them in a printed songbook which goes to all camps and all children has a financial and usability cost.
  - It's around 2p per song, so the songbook would be £1 cheaper if the 50 songs which less than 50% of people on the WhatsApp wanted to keep were archived. Or to put it another way, Elves & Woodlings are paying quite a lot for adults who are really into Glee to have rarely sung songs in a physical copy of the songbook rather than a digital one.
  - We know that some (not all) Elves and Woodlings are already struggling with finding songs as the songbook is too long. The book is heavy and too large for some. And we've heard it's a challenge for adults who find text difficult. No indication of how widespread these problems are yet, they may or may not be widespread. More research is required.
- We've photographed, digitised, and archived in PDF many of our songbooks online at [Glee.org.uk](http://Glee.org.uk): now have 11 songbooks up, from the "possibly first ever" 1968 songbook to the 2017.
- Doing things digitally is relatively easy, doing things in print is difficult: storage, expense and hassle of printing, weight for the camp van taking stuff to camp. Adding 20 songs to songbook without removing any may make it £5+ - a lot for some families esp with more than one child.
- There are other possibilities such as a much shorter songbook for cheap (top 50 FSC songs for £1, or top 100 for £2). Or we could shorten the songbook for all and print an extra-long songbook for interested staff at more like £6-8 which they could pick up at Haddenham and have a couple of copies on each camp. We could provide "print your own" PDFs or word doc of all the archived songs, which people could print and take to camp if they were keen on teaching specific rare songs. Or a longer printed songbook in waterproof format to take 2-3 on camp with all the songs: for beerbox or catering tent.



# PostCamps session 2024

## Session plan

- Gave update
- Asked people what male perspective vs female perspective % share we should have in our songbook
- Discussed substance abuse songs on camp
- Came up with list of songs for “campfire songbook”
- Sang Bread and Roses (at campfire too); Sorrows Away (I did it as arise) and John Ball as “Johanna Ferroure”

## Session output (around 25-30 attendees in and out of session, plus around 20 chats with other people)

- **Context:** lots and lots of people are asking for more context on songs
- **Racism:** people overwhelmingly agreed with the context approach, and with getting rid of songs like banana boat, John Kanaka, Stone Cold Dead
- **Inclusion:** people agree we need more songs from marginalised perspectives
- **Balance of male and female perspectives:** everyone asked held their hand at the position of “we should have a 50/50 split of male and female perspective songs in the songbook”, and there’s wide knowledge that it’s very very male (91%). However, any specifics are met with resistance (did not do this in detail)
- **Outright sexism:** a male staff in his early 20s “I don’t want to be singing songs about shagging loads of women both in general but also specifically when I am looking after 14 year old girls”. This is an opinion which it turns out is shared by many other men in their 20s, based on my straw poll. Banks of the Ohio remains no.1 song by some margin named as problematic, interestingly Oh Sir Jasper is the second and it’s not in the songbook. Everyone still has an opinion on Queenie.
- **Substance Abuse:** differing views here - we shouldn’t be promoting substance abuse, but is the songbook the problem? Lots of our songs are old and e.g. alcohol is part of sea shanties. Snow Sniffin was discussed and concluded that it was mocking of marginalised addicts, unsuitable, and arguably more fun to learn out of the songbook. Alcohol was discussed, hostile environment for non-drinkers, but also a much less offensive song as is from the perspective of a alcoholic.
- **Songbook types:** someone had the idea that we have a “campfire songbook” for lodge and group fires of all types, and a “glee songbook” - much more extensive. People got into groups (of about 3-5 people each) and marked up the contents pages to choose which the “campfire songbook” would contain. I asked groups not in the session too. We have perspectives from 8 different groups of people, there’s considerable overlap and I’d say we have about 80-85 songs which we could start with, plus adding a couple more female perspective songs. Good to get input from non-Glee people.



# Glee Camp session 2024

## Songbook: one or two?

- Quite strong feeling in both sessions that one songbook was the way forward. People talked about getting their songbook as an elf and then keeping it through to a staff and how this gave them a strong link to FSC. Huge work to do 2.
- As always, variation in opinion as to whether songbook was too long and needed a severe cull or not. Point was raised that the most exclusive thing as a new to FSC adult or child is when people sing songs where there aren't any words available - this would be a worse problem with 2 songbooks.
- Alternative solutions to the issues (size & weight; cost; accessibility of contents) were proposed
  - Keep songbook same size, operate a one in one out policy for songs
  - Don't mess with the contents, keep them simple and print everything on paper
  - Issue 1 page guideline to Gleeders IN ADVANCE inc "leave enough time for elves to find the song during lodge fire"
  - Try to roll-out the new songbook to as many people as possible ASAP, so don't have the version issue
  - Trim some of the songs and lose guitar chords from some of them - bad guitar much worse than no guitar
  - Cost was not felt to be an issue for a lot of people bearing in mind cost of camp. Events team are potentially keen to sponsor a new songbook for every new to FSC child and staff - from funds raised by the Xmas Ceileidh. Q as to whether we could fund for the first year a new SB by adding £3 onto the fees etc. [Unsure whether cost is £3.50 or £5]
- List indicators are helpful: top 20 FSC bangers (EK has this from the 2 songbook work); songs for younger children etc. Not on contents page as too hard to read for some people.
- Want country dancing 2 pages in there too.

## How are these edited songs? (hesitation blues, chicken on a raft etc etc).

- Absolutely fine, all good, why aren't we going further. No issues with any of the changes. (!!!!!)

## Other things:

- Mediocre guitar terrible at lodge fire. Keep a few top songs with chords that can stand it & move the rest to online
- What would it take to do a new songbook this year, why can't we do one for 2025?
- New glee committee needed - separate from the work we're doing on this songbook - a completely new small young team to take over after we're done on this songbook keeping wider consultation (e.g. regional gleeders, anyone else who wants to join)



# Other minor tweaks late October

(note “trimming” songs assumes they stay in the songbook - they may not)

- **Shoals of Herring** - kill that extra first verse with different tune as limits it being sung.
- **Deportees** - choose one verse as optional verse not helpful
- **Big Rock Candy Mountains** - cigarette trees to peppermint trees - Lodge vote
- **Gonna be an Engineer** - lyrics wrong but very, very long in original so let's see Lodge vote
- **Diggers Song 2** - trim down - intimidatingly long and text dense
- **Haul away Joe** - first verse anti-queer, and also it's very, very long now (lodge vote)
- **Ilkley Moor** - de-dialect it
- **My Baby Cares for Only Me** - we're missing a part so add that back in
- **Poor Old Horse** - switch Turk for Jerk and lose last verse
- **Sante Anno** - trim some verses
- **Drill Ye Tarriers Drill** - return to “hard as the holes in hell” as it has been in all previous songbooks (note: original 1888 version is “hobs of hell” but feels like this is an FSC-ism which should stay)
- **Barley Mow** - take it back to the old version which everyone knows and trim the text a tad
- **Don't Get Married Girls** - very long
- **Sing If You're Glad to be Gay** - writer Tom Robinson did later versions, we're tracking down some people to have a look at editing some of these due to lack of comfort with the “child molester” verse
- **This Land is your Land** - trim the extra verses added in
- **This Train is Bound for Glory** - trim
- **Unicorn** - trim this
- **When I'm Gone** - change to the pitch perfect version which everyone know



# 2024 Glee Camp output, voted live & discussed

**Guitar chords to stay** *(note, once we have a new songbook will handwrite chords for all songs possible and put online)*

Cockles and Mussels
Dark as a Dungeon
Dirty Old Town
Drill Ye Tarriers, Drill
Erie Canal
Froggy Went A-Courting
Halleluiah I'm a Bum
House of the Rising Sun
Irene
Jock Stewart
Leaving of L1verpool
Lord of the Dance
Mary Don't You Weep
Pole Tax Song
River O Joe
Sing If You're Glad to be Gay
Streets of London
Wagon Wheel
Way Over Yonder
Whisky on a Sunday
Wild Rover

**Songs which need shortening**

Barley Mow
Diggers Song 2
Don't Get Married Girls
Gonna be an Engineer
Sante Anno
Shoals of Herring
Sing If You're Glad to be Gay
This Land is your Land
This Train is Bound for Glory
Unicorn



# Printing Constraints

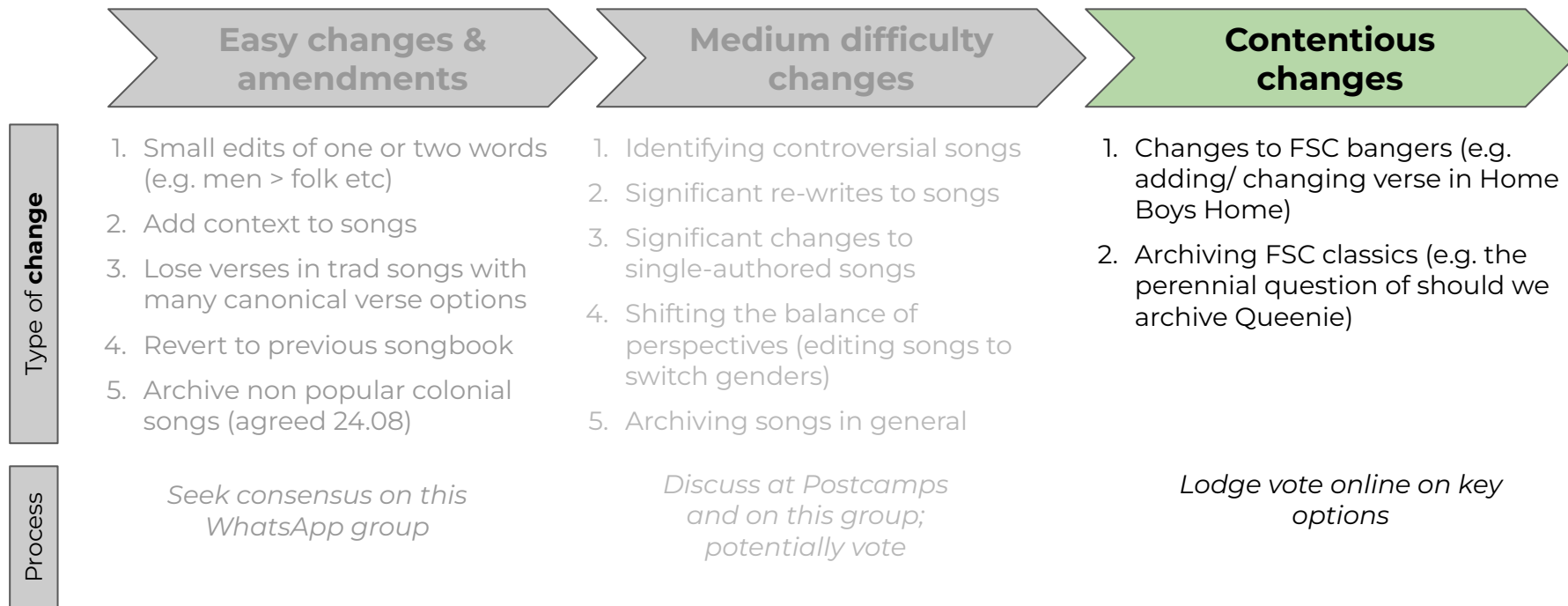
## Printing costs are based on

1. Fixed cost: set-up
2. Variable costs: paper & ink
  - a. How many pages
  - b. Type & weight of paper (100gsm, 80gsm)
  - c. Size (A5 etc)
  - d. Recycled vs non recycled
  - e. Front cover





# Contentious changes



# Things for lodge vote:

1. % male vs female

## Redrafts

2. Home Boys Home
3. Big Rock Candy
4. Old Joe Clarke
5. Larks additional verse

## Stay or go

6. Queenie
7. Banks of the Ohio
8. My Girl's a Corker



# What are possible solutions? (Example)

Song	Issue	Possible solutions
<b>Home Boys Home</b>	Misogynistic narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep as is, or archive</li><li>• Replace one verse with a woodling suggested verse</li><li>• Add a verse by FSCer</li><li>• Additionally change chorus to add “and the girls” where “fresh fish” used to go</li><li>• Switch to another version sung in the wider folk canon</li><li>• ....?</li></ul>
<u>Pierce Campbell version from wider folk canon</u> When I was a young man sure I longed to see the world To sail around the sea in ships and see the sails unfurled I went to see my fortune on the far side of the hill I have wandered far and wide and of travel I've had my fill  [chorus as standard]  Well I left my love behind me and I sailed across the tide I said that I'd be back again and take her for my bride But many years have gone and passed and still I'm far away I know she is my fond true love and waiting for the day  Now I know there's more to life than to wander and to roam Happiness and peace of mind can best be found at home For money can't buy happiness and money cannot bind So I'm going home tomorrow to the girl I left behind		
<u>Gribin 2024 Woodling girls proposal (switch verse for this)</u> “If they like history, then send them out to teach If they like religion, then send them out to preach, If they like sailing, then give them a jacket blue And send them up the rigging like their daddy used to do		
<u>Add new verse by FSCer</u> And if the child's non-binary Then what are we to do, Should we send them out to nurse, Or give them the jacket blue? Well, to hell with all the stereotypes, And sod the gender roles, They'll never listen anyway, For kids don't do what they're told		

# Lodge Survey Output >> See Slide 39 onwards



# Key learnings from lodge surveys after doing it

- Don't do two separate adult surveys - no need. One 15 min survey would've been better.
- People needed more time to complete - I would say a month would be better next time.
- Could do a separate survey for children - this would be great actually
- We deliberately only included 70 songs to get down to a 25 song list to cut, because we felt that surveying all 225 songs would be ludicrous, BUT actually it would have been much better to do a bigger survey and get a more definitive list so fewer arguments later - we got a v. high response rate.
- Absolutely decide in advance your methodology and cut-offs (e.g. "ranked by popularity, lose the bottom 30 songs") so you avoid the issue we had of debating at the end. Makes it much fairer.
- No need to provide a separate line item for "have you heard this?" so we could do a calculation based on % of songs heard, largely cos we ended up with the same songs as the much simpler "do you like this"? Question
- NOTE: significantly truncated survey comments in the back of this presentation



# Agreed 29th November

- Change Alcohol to title “you’re the very devil” to avoid it being the first one in the book
- Leave As I Roved Out
- Leave Auld Triangle
- Kill extra chorus to Great American Railway
- Kill that verse in Drunken Sailor - turns out captain’s daughter is a nickname for Cat o’9 tails whip. Could restore with context or just not worry about it?

## Lodge songs:

- Old Joe Clarke - keep as per lodge survey
- Haul Away Joe - change to “if I disrespected girls” based on comments
- Big Rock Candy - make no changes
- Home Boys Home - I’ll come back with a proposal next week

## Still to do

- Decide which songs to archive
- Agree an approach to the “switch more song genders / make them gender neutral”
- WTF to do about Gonna be an engineer - real version is LUDICROUSLY long
- Parting Glass - lose that extra verse?
- Home Boys Home - EK to propose
- My Girl’s a Corker - do we adopt FPTP voting system (eek) or take another call?



# Lodge survey: songs to archive (25 songs - first cut)

## Option 1: least popular

<b>Dido Bendigo</b>	<b>Poor Boy</b>
As I roved Out	Mrs McGrath
<b>Don't get married gir</b>	<b>Moccasin Mile</b>
<b>Tavern in the Town</b>	<b>A Bi O</b>
<b>Strangest Dream</b>	<b>Diamonds in the Rou</b>
Come from the Heart	<b>Unicorn</b>
Let the Bulgine Run	<b>Sweet Roseanne</b>
Crow on the Cradle	<b>Road to Isles</b>
<b>Logger Lover</b>	<b>All on the shore</b>
<b>Lady and the Croc</b>	<b>Calling On</b>
When you were born	<b>Handsome Jon Brown</b>
Death Come Knocking	<b>Up the Ladder</b>
Before I met you	

## Option 2: least popular by “% who have heard it”

<b>Logger Lover</b>	<b>Road to Isles</b>
Hill and Gully	<b>Lady and the Croc</b>
Life is Butter	<b>Don't get married gir</b>
River of joe	Lord of the Dance
<b>Up the Ladder</b>	<b>Poor Boy</b>
<b>Tavern in the Town</b>	<b>Moccasin Mile</b>
<b>Sweet Roseanne</b>	<b>Calling On</b>
Pole Tax Song	<b>A Bi O</b>
<b>Dido Bendigo</b>	<b>Diamonds in the Rou</b>
Milwalukee Truckin	<b>All on the shore</b>
Moondance	<b>Handsome Jon Brown</b>
Botany Bay	<b>Unicorn</b>
<b>Strangest Dream</b>	

## Other thoughts

- Get rid of one of the 3 angel songs (multiple comments like this)

**[Voted 12:4:0 to get rid of angels watching over me]**

- Clementine (but we've already fixed that through a return to the 1888 sheet music version)
- [A number of other specific songs listed >> key takeaway for me is that we could have done a longer survey with more songs; learning for next time]



**Voted 10:4 to choose this option**



# Lodge survey: songs to archive (second round)

## Option 1: least popular

<b>A Bi O</b>	Let the Bulgine Run
All on the shore	<b>Logger Lover</b>
As I roved Out	<b>Moccasin Mile</b>
Before I met you	Mrs McGrath
Calling On	<b>Poor Boy</b>
Come from the Heart	<b>Road to Isles</b>
<b>Crow on the Cradle</b>	<b>Strangest Dream</b>
Death Come Knocking	<b>Sweet Roseanne</b>
<b>Diamonds in the Rough</b>	<b>Tavern in the Town</b>
<b>Dido Bendigo</b>	<b>Unicorn</b>
<b>Don't get married girls</b>	Up the Ladder
<b>Handsome John Brown</b>	When you were born
<b>Lady and the Crocodile</b>	

## Option 2: least popular by “% who have heard it” over 11 people

<b>A Bi O</b>	Milwaukee Truckin'
Botany Bay	<b>Moccasin Mile</b>
Children go where I..	Moondance
<b>Crow on the Cradle</b>	<b>Poor Boy</b>
<b>Diamonds in the Rough</b>	River of Joe
<b>Dido Bendigo</b>	<b>Road to Isles</b>
<b>Don't Get Married Girls</b>	Seven drunken nights
<b>Handsome John Brown</b>	<b>Strangest Dream</b>
Hippopotamus	<b>Sweet Roseanne</b>
<b>Lady and the Crocodile</b>	<b>Tavern in the town</b>
Life is Butter	This land is your land
<b>Logger Lover</b>	<b>Unicorn</b>
Lord of the Dance	

With Option 2: 3 songs where fewer than 11 had heard it to go into the NTCI process

- All on the shore
- Calling On
- Up the ladder





# Lodge survey: songs to archive (second round)

## Option 1: least popular

<b>A Bi O</b>	Let the Bulgine Run
All on the shore	<b>Logger Lover</b>
As I roved Out	<b>Moccasin Mile</b>
Before I met you	Mrs McGrath
Calling On	<b>Poor Boy</b>
Come from the Heart	<b>Road to Isles</b>
<b>Crow on the Cradle</b>	<b>Strangest Dream</b>
Death Come Knocking	<b>Sweet Roseanne</b>
<b>Diamonds in the Rough</b>	<b>Tavern in the Town</b>
<b>Dido Bendigo</b>	<b>Unicorn</b>
<b>Don't get married girls</b>	Up the Ladder
<b>Handsome John Brown</b>	When you were born
<b>Lady and the Crocodile</b>	

## Option 2: least popular by “% who have heard it”

<b>A Bi O</b>	Milwaukee Truckin'
Botany Bay	<b>Moccasin Mile</b>
Children go where I..	Moondance
<b>Crow on the Cradle</b>	<b>Poor Boy</b>
<b>Diamonds in the Rough</b>	River of Joe
<b>Dido Bendigo</b>	<b>Road to Isles</b>
<b>Don't Get Married Girls</b>	Seven drunken nights
<b>Handsome John Brown</b>	<b>Strangest Dream</b>
Hippopotamus	<b>Sweet Roseanne</b>
<b>Lady and the Crocodile</b>	<b>Tavern in the town</b>
Life is Butter	This land is your land
<b>Logger Lover</b>	<b>Unicorn</b>
Lord of the Dance	

With Option 2: 10 songs where 10% or fewer people know it BUT scores high on likeability where they do, to go into the NTCI process

- All on the shore
- Calling On
- Up the ladder
- Mrs McGrath
- When you were born
- Death come knocking
- Come from the heart
- Let the Bulgine run
- As I roved out
- Before I met you



# Lodge survey: songs to archive (third round!)

## Least popular by “% who have heard it”

<b>A Bi O</b>	Milwaukee Truckin'
Botany Bay	<b>Moccasin Mile</b>
Children go where I..	Moondance
<b>Crow on the Cradle</b>	<b>Poor Boy</b>
<b>Diamonds in the Rough</b>	River of Joe
<b>Dido Bendigo</b>	<b>Road to Isles</b>
<b>Don't Get Married Girls</b>	Seven drunken nights
<b>Handsome John Brown</b>	<b>Strangest Dream</b>
Hippopotamus	<b>Sweet Roseanne</b>
<b>Lady and the Crocodile</b>	<b>Tavern in the town</b>
Life is Butter	This land is your land
<b>Logger Lover</b>	<b>Unicorn</b>
Lord of the Dance	

With this option... **10 songs** where approx 10% or fewer people know it BUT scores high on likeability where they do, to go into the IFASCO process

- All on the shore
- As I roved out
- Before I met you
- Calling On
- Come from the heart
- Death come knocking
- Let the Bulgine run
- Mrs McGrath
- Up the ladder
- When you were born



# Things delivered up to 13th March 2025 (1 of 2)

1. Digitised 17 songbooks from 1963 to present day
2. Analysed this to work out which songs are in which songbook & change of song numbers over time
3. Spoke to 2024 summer camp Gleeders and got feedback on specific problematic songs from c.5-7
4. Manually converted 2017 songbook from PDF into an editable document and proofed it and formatted
5. Analysed this to work out which songs are in which songbook & reviewed change over time
6. Attributed and dated all possible songs from the 224 songs from the 2017 and 40 additional songs from IFASCO
7. Agreed uncontroversial changes to specific songs after discussions and ideas
8. Undertook lengthy discussions around 50 songs, coming up with and voting on options
9. Re-wrote lyrics to around 10 songs
10. Did first cut survey n=20 to see songs unsung
11. Worked up and tested new ideas e.g. multiple songbooks (involved sourcing the Woodcraft Folk book, speaking to Woodcraft folk, drafting a list of possible songs)
12. Undertook discussion group with around 25 people on Postcamps, including marking up songbooks to show which songs are most and least popular, discussing "lodge fire songbook" possibility, and getting other input on the process
13. Undertook 2 discussion groups at Glee camp with around 30 people to get input on our initial plans
14. Surveyed entire lodge (n=225) on proposed changes, and a separate survey on 'songs unsung' (n=200)
15. Analysed survey results, read comments (10k words) and incorporated into the draft songbook
16. Wrote 2 Org 4 articles
17. Created draft songbook in word processing document



# Things delivered up to 13th March 2025 (2 of 2)

18. Proofed draft songbook
19. Created additional elements to songbook
  - a. Introduction
  - b. Contextualising our songbook
  - c. Glossary
  - d. List of songs to sing / ultimate hitlist
  - e. Country dancing dances
  - f. Colourchord
  - g. Ideas for leading Glee on camp
20. Wrote up the work we've done to go into the songbook
  - a. Trial songbook process
  - b. FSC and our values
  - c. Songbook journeys
  - d. Songbook survey write up and charts
  - e. Decisions we made as a collective
  - f. List of songs being archived
  - g. Other notes
  - h. Credits / Feedback / How to find out more
21. Typeset, designed, proofed draft songbook in Canva
22. Wrote scores to rounds
23. Sourced beautiful illustrations and front cover
24. Created songbook ebook and singing ebook
25. Analysed existing songs from the songbook to see where our gaps are: authorship, gender perspective, type of song, theme etc
26. Created a list of songs based on lodge input using lodge survey, diversity call-out, suggestions from 2024 discussions with Gleeders, and others
27. Whittled song list down to 40 songs for IFASCO using data and insight from the working group
28. Typeset, proofed, and illustrated IFASCO
29. Applied for funding to AFA
30. Recorded 40+ new songs to go up on glee.org.uk to showcase IFASCO songs; created Spotify playlist
31. Printed (all the proofing and multiple discussions required) both songbook and IFASCO
32. Packed songbooks and IFASCOs into camp boxes; posted copies out
33. Designed and implemented 2025 feedback process (writing survey, putting prompts in book)



# Other topics

*Not discussed / agreed yet*

- Mole in a hole - anti-Christian?
- By the waters - Zionist?

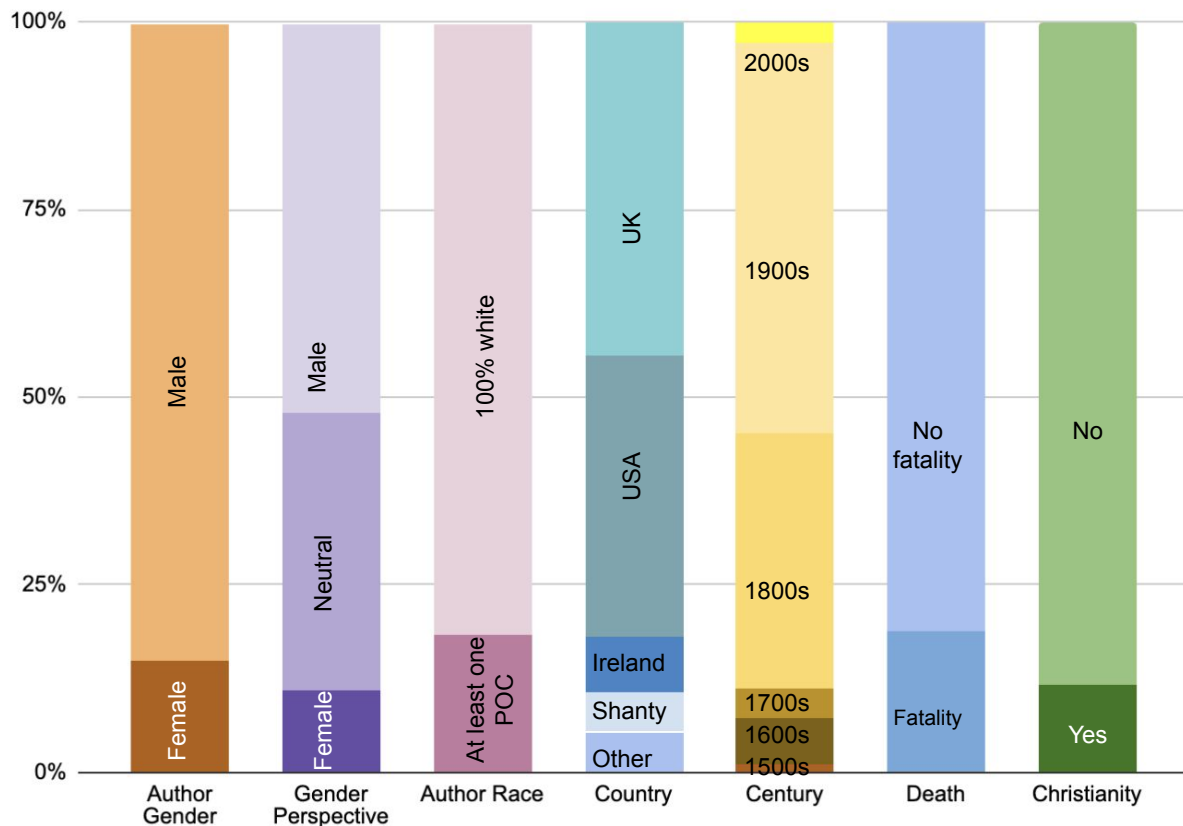
Mole in a hole: quote from the survey

A couple of years ago, someone told me that Christian friends of theirs were feeling excluded by some FSC lyrics, and this song makes me worry about that although I like other aspects. Realising now that the survey didn't gather any demographic info about religion (maybe some people would have opted for "Another minoritised category" with their faith in mind?)... remembering one survey response I found interesting, halfway down page ten of the responses document: "FSC still approaches spirituality in a very unique fashion"... feeling out of my depth trying to think about this, mostly I just wanted to highlight that passage, but I do wonder if at some point we'd want to think about how Christianity has shaped the English folk tradition as well as being fundamental in the gospel songs and spirituals. Cos I guess there have been very significant shifts in UK attitudes towards religion during FSC's lifespan so far, so while it is a complicated topic to breach, we might benefit from opening out these questions at some point?



# Some stats on the 2026 songbook (ex-IFASCO)

SOURCE: [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TJjDejTTUe3k66XlbEmp-ltIPtrA8A\\_EkMTN85M-8qk/edit?gid=233980996#gid=233980996](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1TJjDejTTUe3k66XlbEmp-ltIPtrA8A_EkMTN85M-8qk/edit?gid=233980996#gid=233980996)



Excludes  
"Unknown" from  
all categories





# Songbook Survey

November 2024

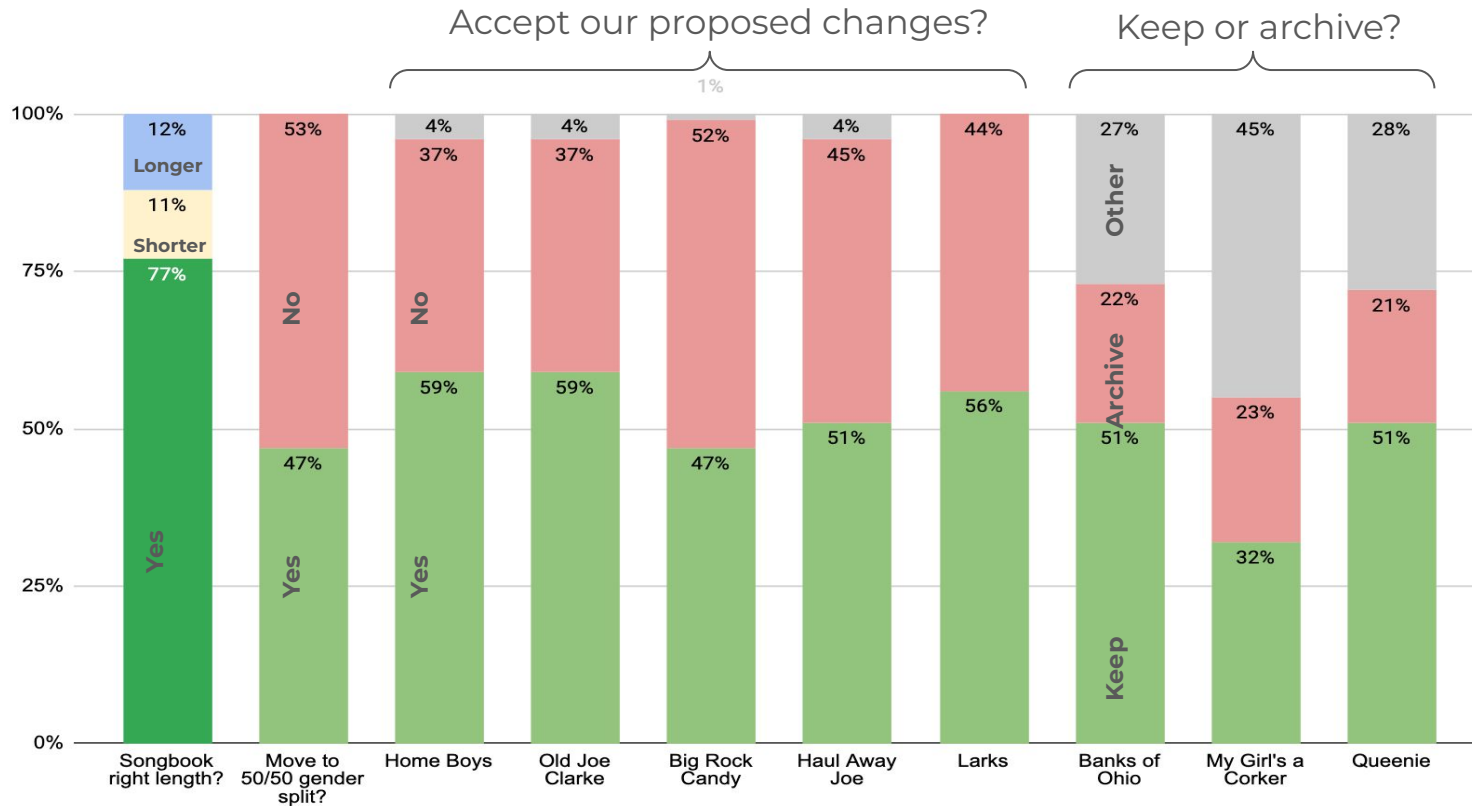
Contact Emily Kerr or Sophie  
Meekings for further details on  
this presentation

# Songbook Survey

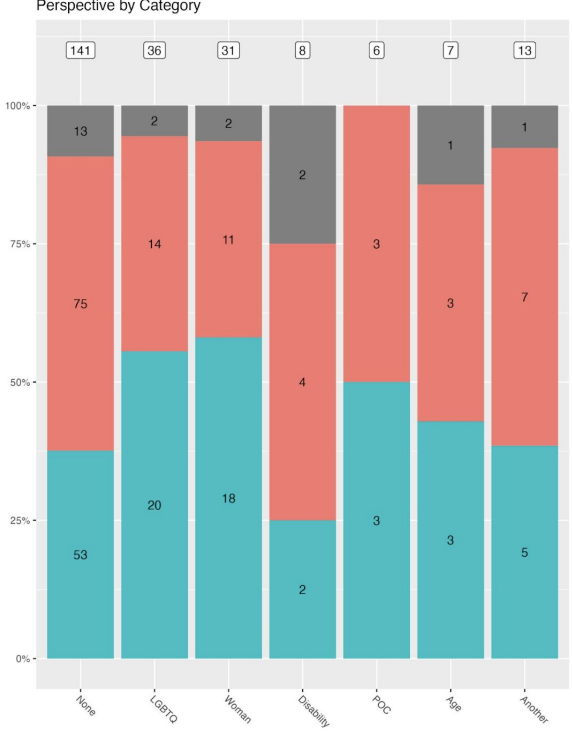
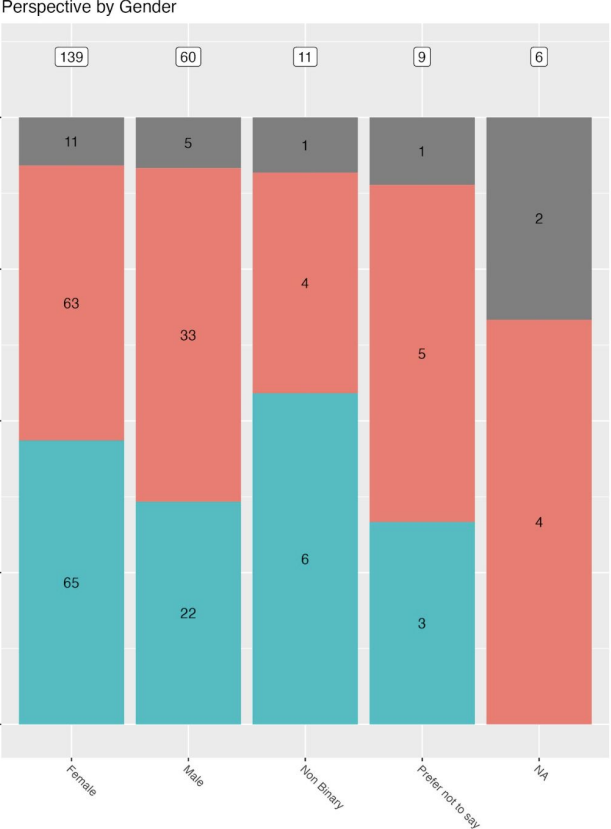
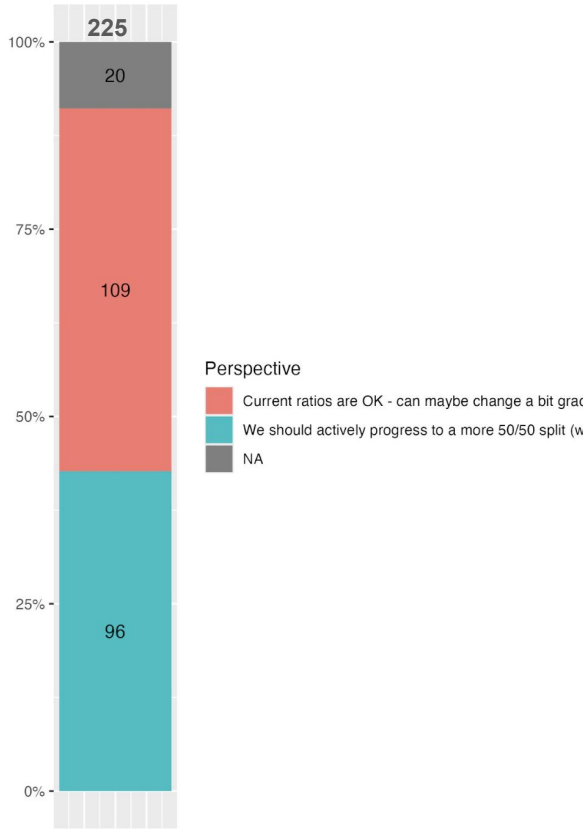
- Survey took place in November 2024; two separate surveys - one on lodge bangers (n=225) and one on which songs to archive (n=189)
- For GDPR reasons we have scrubbed the surveys of identifying data; but the wider non-demographic data is saved and our analysis including demographics follows here
- The overall insight is that there's a majority in favour of our changes, and also a majority opposed to removing any songs from the songbooks
- The key demographic insight is that women and minoritised groups are generally more up for changes to the songbook - this is consistently true across all the questions asked
- Please also refer to the comments document which aggregates the 9,000 words of comments (eek). 51 positive comments, 10 negative ones and around 63 ideas on the process (plus song-specific comments). That means 83% of the comments on the process and approach are positive, and 17% negative.
- [Comments document](#) available to all FSC staff in the full folder
- Included here are a sample of comments on specific songs



# One slide data summary (no demographics)



# Overall perspective

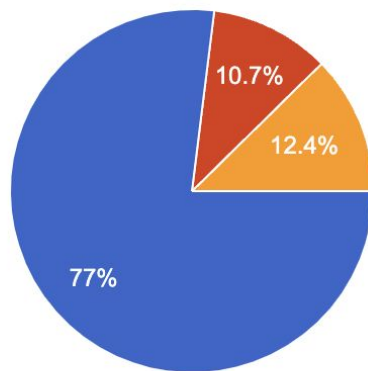


# Songbook Survey

After much discussion around cost / weight and size for small children / usability, we are recommending that the new songbook stays the same length as the current 2017, our longest ever songbook at 224 songs. Do you think it's the right length?

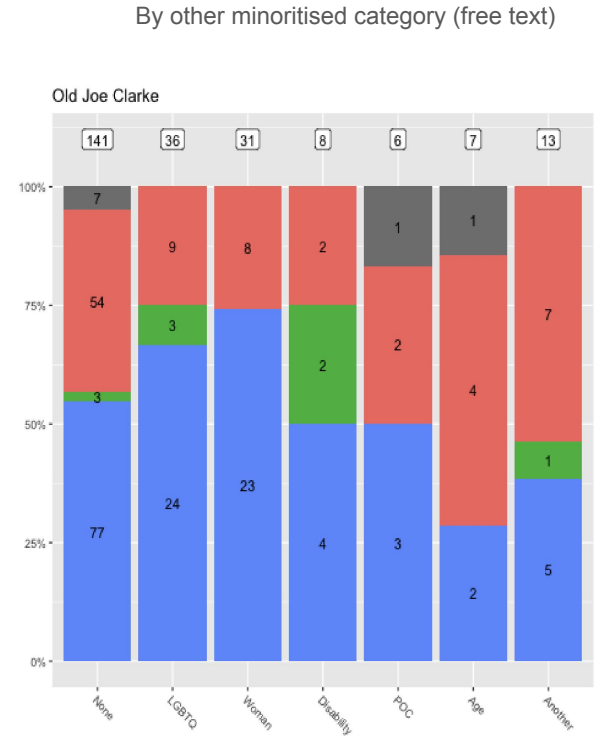
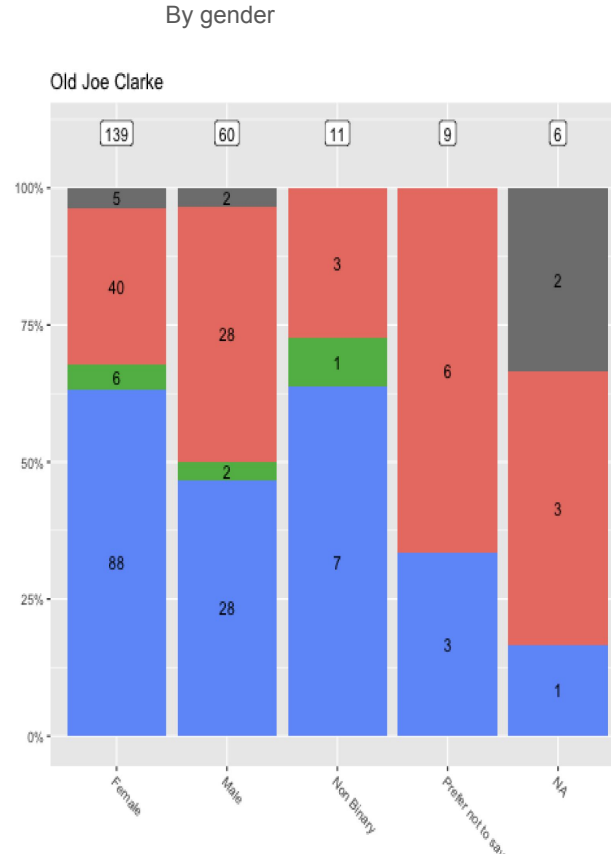
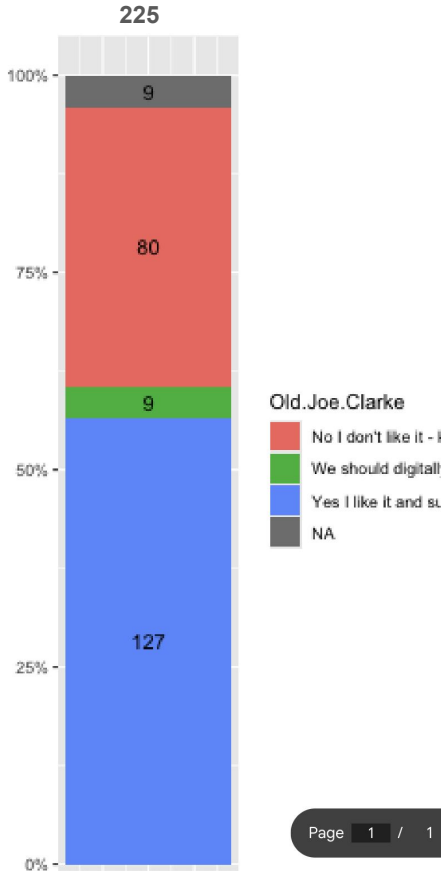
 [Copy chart](#)

178 responses



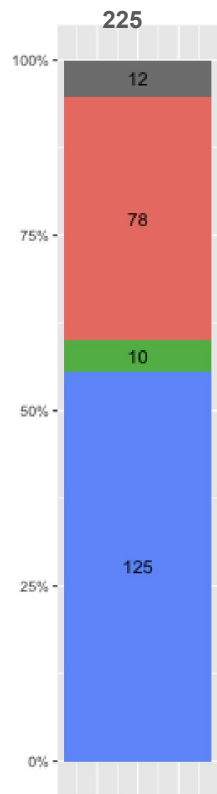
- Current songbook is the right length
- New songbook should be shorter
- New songbook should be longer

# Old Joe Clarke



# Home Boys Home

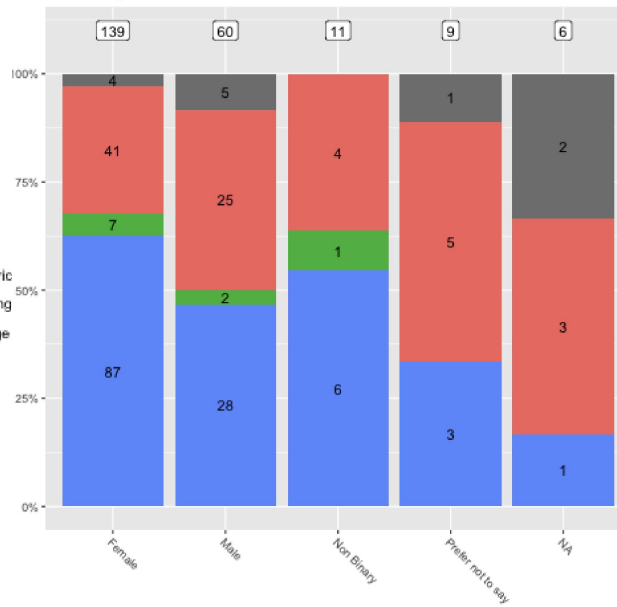
By gender



Home.Boys.Home

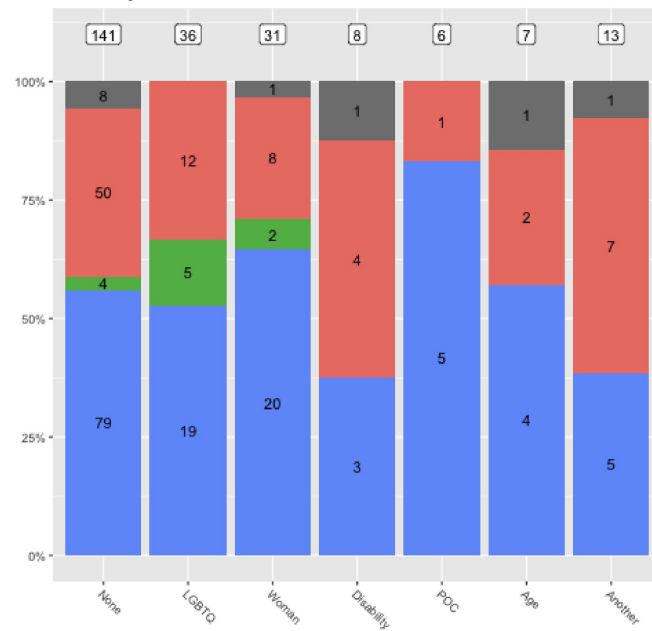
- No I don't like it - keep previous lyric
- We should digitally archive the song
- Yes I like it and support this change
- NA

Home Boys Home



By other minoritised category (free text)

Home Boys Home



# Home Boys Home - comments

As someone who struggles with singing tunefully: I'm not sure if the new verse to 'Home Boys Home' quite fits the melody but does work

I'd love to work on home boys home some more to make it more conscious

The changes you've made to Home Boys Home don't change the inherent misogyny within the earlier verses rev "She tended to me needs like a young maid ought to do, And then I said to her now would you lep in with me too"

HATE home boys home- feel really uncomfortable with kids singing it

I think the bigger problem with Home Boys Home is the bit about "tended to my needs just like a young maid ought to do". So i don't think the new verse really resolves it.

I liked the woodling suggestion for home boys home - the second two lines were great - if they like sailing ..... I would prefer if we are in control of lyrics to not suggest anyone should be a preacher!

I do think the new verse for Home Boys Home is great but am concerned that it does not fit historically with the context of the time and feel we should not whitewash women's struggle in history by a false representation of what was possible. Female teachers were not common until later in the 19th century when this song originates from early 19th century or earlier according to my research.

On home boys home, I cant remember what I suggested, but I liked the new lyrics except they scanned less well - I suggest 'if they \*take to\* history,' 'if they \*get\* religion', and 'if they \*take to\* sailing', or something similar as options that fit the rhythm slightly better.

# Home Boys Home - comments

The only tweak I think is appropriate is the one authored by woodlings. I feel tweaks should be invented on camp, in response to discussion taking place on camp.

Home Boys Home has a whole alternative set of verses from women's lib viewpoint - could he added next to original . Short context around could be added to highlight women weren't allowed to do certain professions, including on boats but many females posed as men, including famous pirates who were later revealed as women or less!

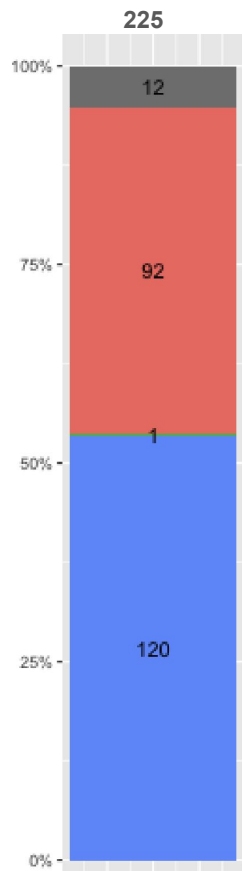
Also if changing the lyrics of home boys home, I think the 3rd line scans better without "then"

Context is everything. Eg banks of ohio also highlights femicide. Eg home boys home sailing and nursing may well have been the best aspirational job options available at the time and were divided on gender lines

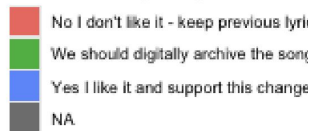
I thinkn some songs its nice/good/fine/fun to add or change verses, but in cases (like home boys home) it feels more disrespectful of women to erase the reality of lack of choice of profession in the period of history its referring. so better to include notes but I think the whole song is about exaining the shit experience of women so implying that the children might do anyrhing they like feels trite and innapropriate for me. that general sentiment applys to other songs i think.

But the likes of Home Boys Home... It's not rocket science to explain to children that for most of recent human history people had gendered roles, the song was written in such a time, things have improved and moved on but we are singing a song from the 18th century (or whenever). Lines about climbing up the rigging kind of give if away that we are not referring to modern times! If we update songs clearly set in the past with modern lyrics I think there's a serious danger of misleading kids that the past wasn't a sexist place.

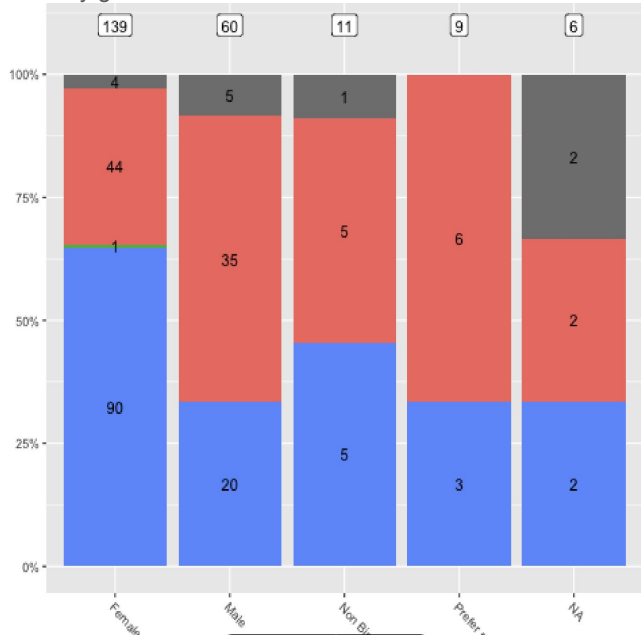
# The Larks They Sang Melodious



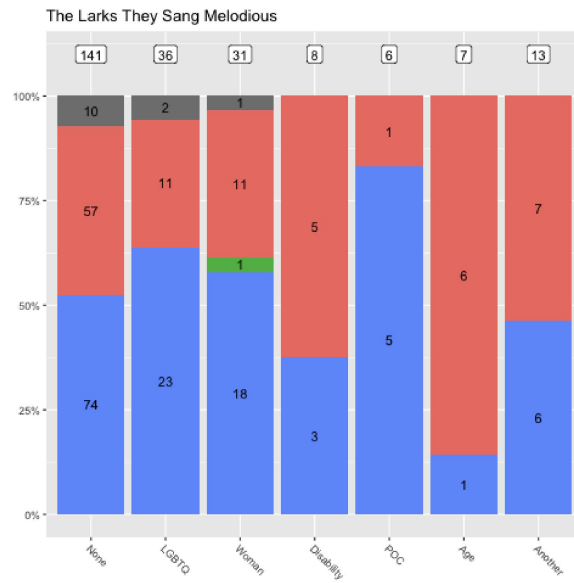
The.Larks.They.Sang.Melodious



By gender



By other minoritised category (free text)





# Larks - comments

Change 'woman' to 'lady' in the new verse of 'The Larks' so it's easier to sing? (I'm not sure if this introduces a different meaning)

I don't really understand why we'd add the new last verse to the Larks? It feels MORE misogynistic with this addition to it because Nancy has no agency & no story until the sailor comes back to claim "his" woman & comment on her physical appearance... (I get that this level of overtone is present in lots of songs we sing I just don't get why we'd add it in as part of this project!!)

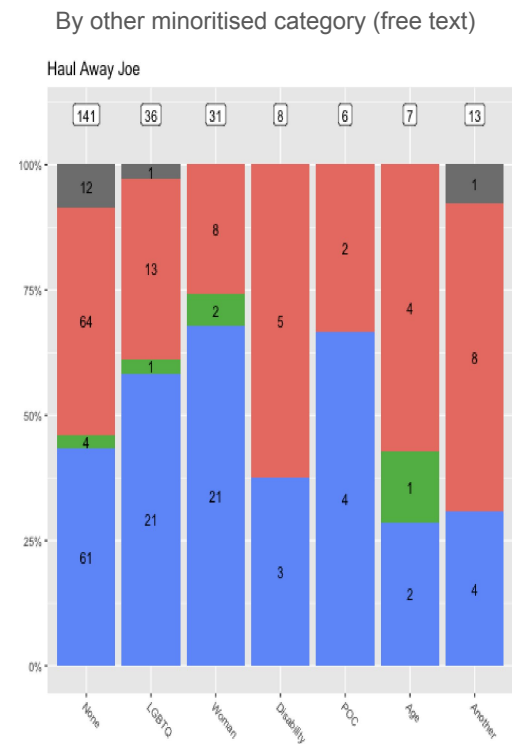
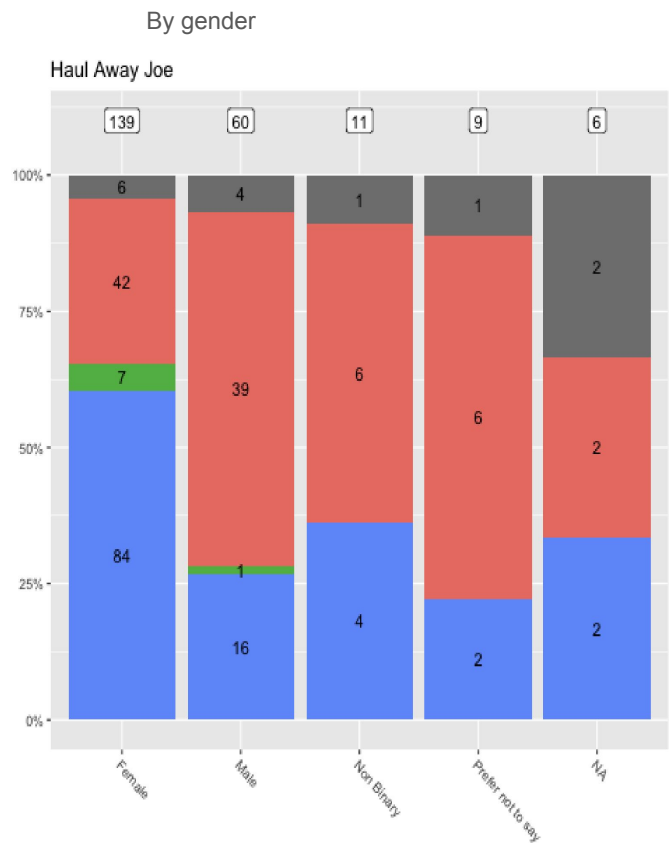
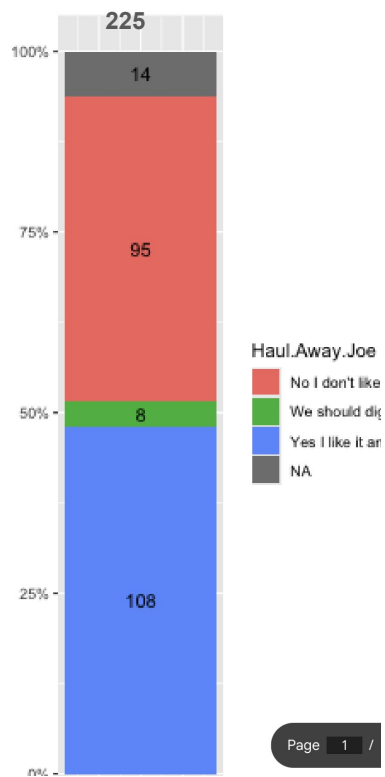
I think there are more choices for the final verse of Larks that might be more empowering: ie woman doesn't have to be 'taken' or 'spoken for' .

On that note: I don;t love the larks ending verse suggested, I think because I would prefer to de-emphasise gender, rather than increase the dichotomy between them, if that makes sense?

For example in larks, my preferred option would be to just make both characters female, for which all that's required is changing 'his' to 'her' in several places, and changing william to a female coded name that fits - Liza, Emily? (its only two notes, so I think a 2 syllable name is probably fine). If the aim is to reduce the stereotype of poor girl waiting around at the will and behest of a guy shes in love with, this seems like a more elegant solution - this would also be my generally preferred option for gender issues in songs - either removing gender references entirely, or making them interchangeable/ mixing them up.

Larks- new suggested verse doesn't scan well

# Haul Away Joe



# Haul Away Joe - comments

Some of the proposed changes are the only songs where a sneaky shift of a pronoun allows for a reference to queer women (haul away Joe, Old Joe Clark etc). I'd be sad to lose these, personally.

Haul away Joe thoughts - I have never really liked the kiss the girls line. But I don't really want another verse in about kissing either - it's a young children's favourite song and we don't need to increase the sexiness. Better to change the original objectionable verse I reckon. Sometimes I said no change for some lyrics because they convey so much poignant emotion. ' If ever I return again.... it's about human experience I reckon as well as the history of women's rights experience at the hands of sailors. Stay by your side, instead of make you my bride - or something - but keep the heart rending slush?

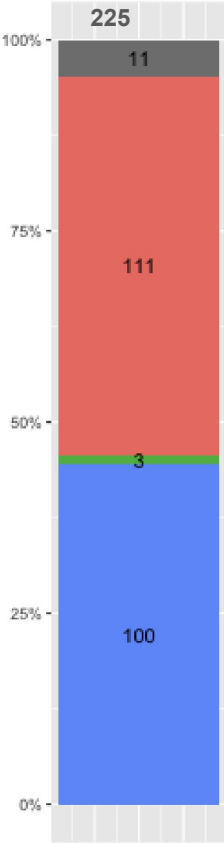
With Haul Away Joe instead of adding in a verse which feels a bit convoluted, why not remove the gender of the singer to make it more gender neutral?

WRT to haul away Joe I'd prefer if we just cut a verse if it's problematic rather than slightly clumsily rewrite it ... and encourage kids to make up their own verses about their own experiences

The change to Haul away Joe is unnecessary. There are dozens of verses and camps can always make up new ones. Just omit the first verse entirely in a reprinting.

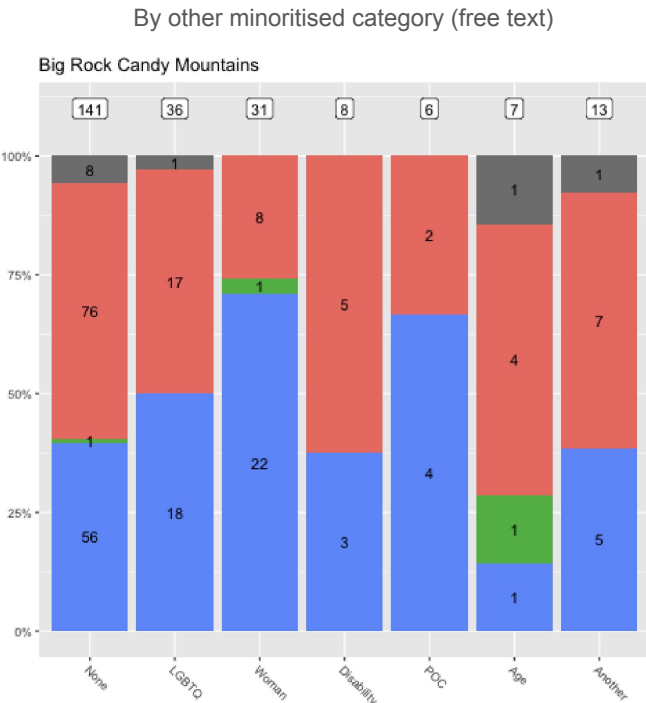
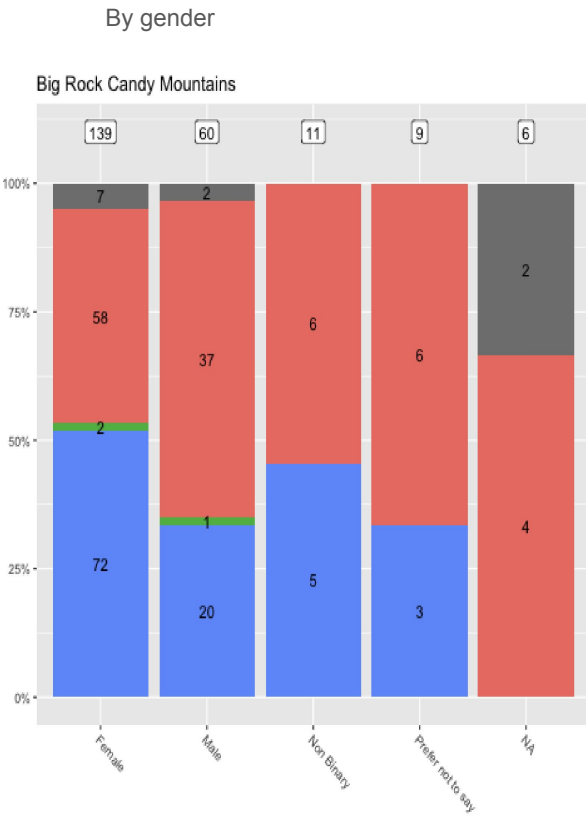
Oh also I think the mouldy lip new verse in haul away joe is fine, but I would put it at the end of the suggested verses, or in the middle, rather than immediately responding to the initial verse, otherwise it feels too on the nose.

# Big Rock Candy



Big.Rock.Candy.Mountains

- No I don't like it - keep previous
- We should digitally archive the s
- Yes I like it and support this cha
- NA



# Big Rock Candy comments

The current songbook (and the suggested changed in the survey) has got the second and third verses of Big Rock Candy Mountain the wrong way round. Please can this be corrected as it causes confusion at campfire!

Taking cigarette out of rock.candy mountain makes sense - it sounds odd coming from kids, and society is clearly moving on from cigarettes. I don't think the same is true for alcohol / whisky and that is contained in plenty of our other songs in any case. Perhaps cigarette trees could be replaced by something more funny than peppermint trees, which is potentially misleading (peppermint is a plant after all but doesn't grow on trees) and a bit middle class. Marshmallow trees? Chocolate trees?

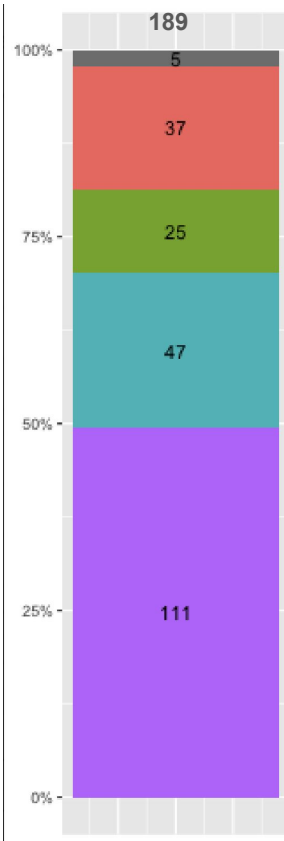
Not sure on repetition of "lemonade" in the tweaked Big Rock Candy mountains

Big rock candy- like peppermint, not cocoa. It used to be "hung the Turk" so there is a history of changing this song

Big Rock Candy Mountains tells a fairytale. Children are not stupid, they know the difference between real and fantasy. The Bum in the song isn't a child who likes peppermints. He's a grown man who likes cigarettes and whisky, and doesn't like policemen with traumatic amputations, or their pet bulldogs. He's not relatable as a peer/role model, he's a funny man in a song.

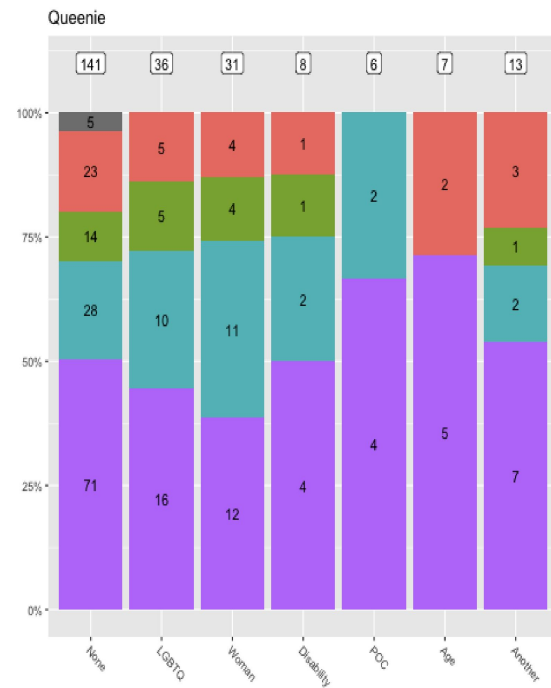
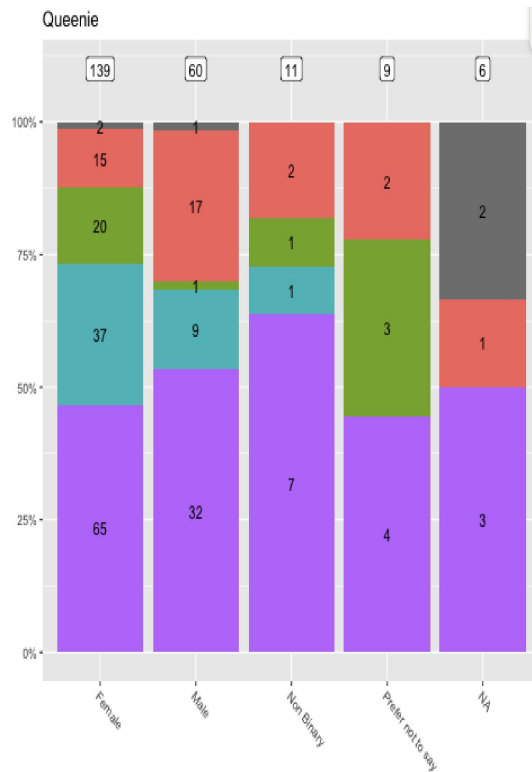
In big rock candy mountain - "peppermint trees" is better than "cigarette trees", but "streams of alcohol" and "lake of stew and whiskey too" is better than lemonade and cocoa

# Queenie Charts



Queenie

- No strong opinion / don't know the song / oth
- Do something else to the song which change
- This song should NOT be in the printed vers
- This song SHOULD be in the printed vers
- NA



# Queenie Comments

Contextualisation of queenie, explaining it would make it acceptable to put in song book imo.

I'm a woman and would be particularly sad to see Queenie not included in the song book

Could queenie stay but add another 3 verses so the song ends With a strong woman's point of view.

Queenie is a woman who had few choices and faced misogyny (and probably worse), but remained independent and took care of herself.

I thought Queenie was about a drag queen...

I think Queenie can stay.....????with a historical & explanatory note.....???? an illustration that implies Queenie is a drag Queen ???? a few word tweaks

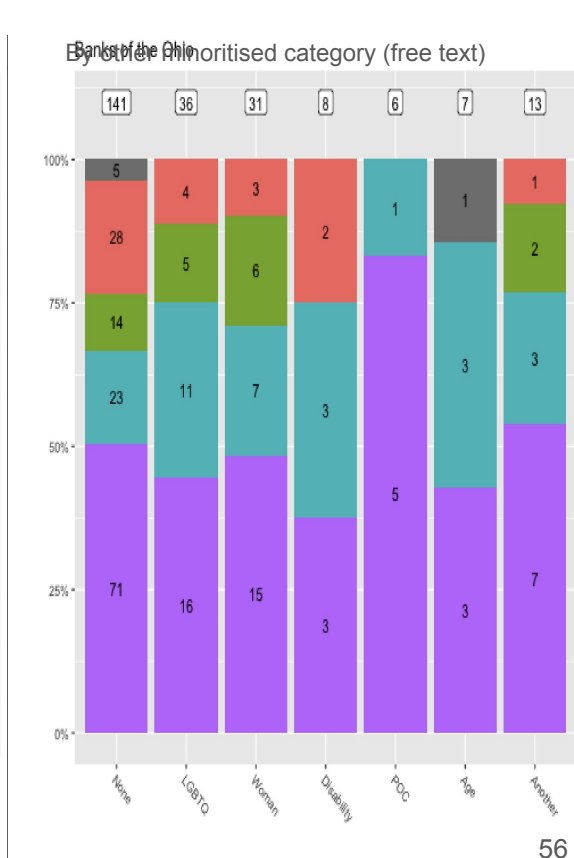
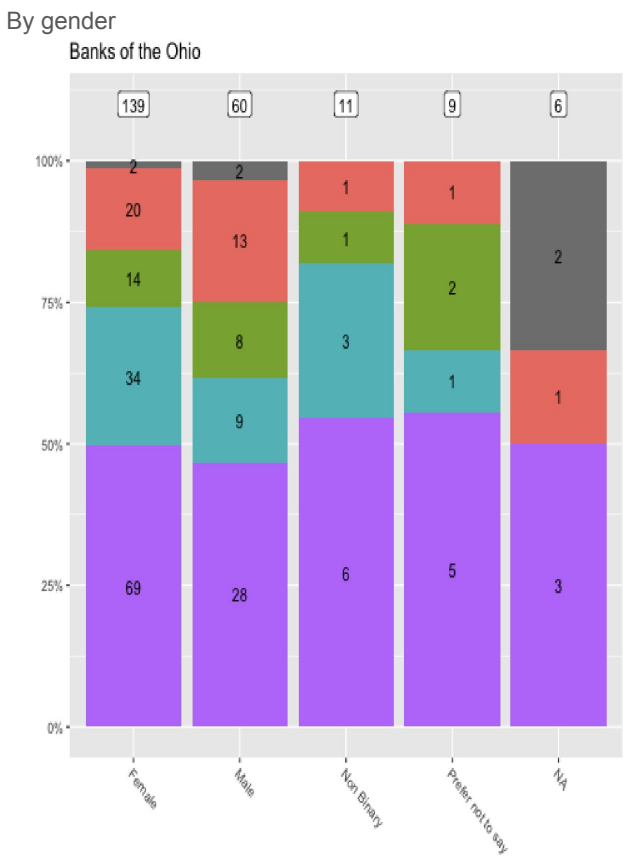
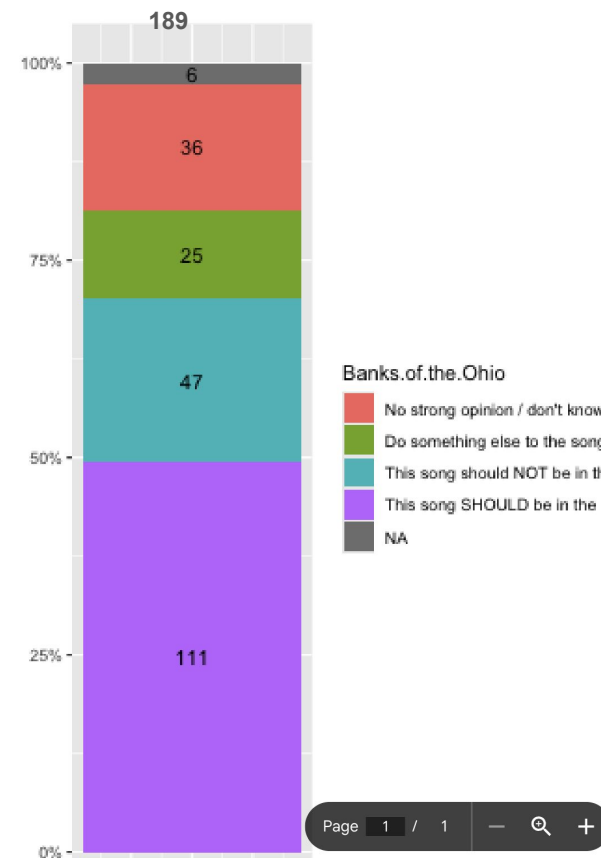
There's a low down tavern where the FOLKS all go

Take em off take em off cry the ONES at the back

Maybe I am biased by this song being such a corker, it is sexist, but also realistic about people doing jobs they need to for money, and not judging a book by it's cover, and burlesque (and by extension other jobs) not actually being about sex. Not all bad messages, not necessarily topics we need to shy away from?

Also queenie could poss be taken out. I know last time it carried on being sung anyway. I personally don't mind queenie and think it's fine to sing it. I also wonder if having some un PC songs taken out of the songbook, and still sung via oral folk tradition isn't a bad compromise. Ie we're not keeping them in the printed songbook for kids, but they can still be sung around fires. I personally think it's fine to keep some of the edgy ones in though - with good context.

# Banks of the Ohio Charts





# Banks of the Ohio Comments

I hate Banks of the Ohio with a burning passion. Children shouldn't be singing about control, domestic abuse and murder in this way, it's vile.

Banks of the Ohio - I don't really feel all the protagonists in our songs need to be positive. This murder is reprehensible, obviously, but the last verse of the song casts it as negative, and with regret. Perhaps more contextualisation / discussion could be created around the song, or other tweaks be looked at to put it in the wider context of gender violence, rather than removing it?

I would also just like to emphasise that I think Banks of the Ohio *\*really\** has to go. It's a celebration of male violence against women, and we shouldn't be teaching it to children.

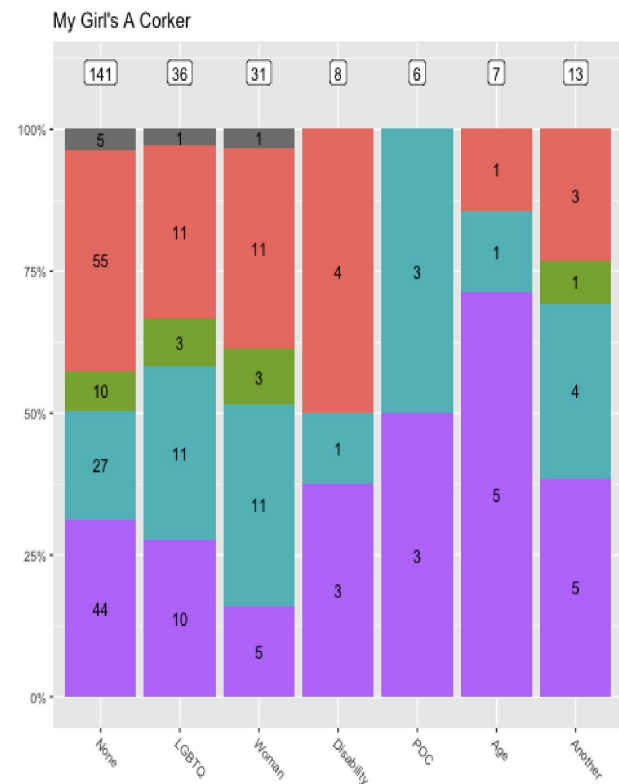
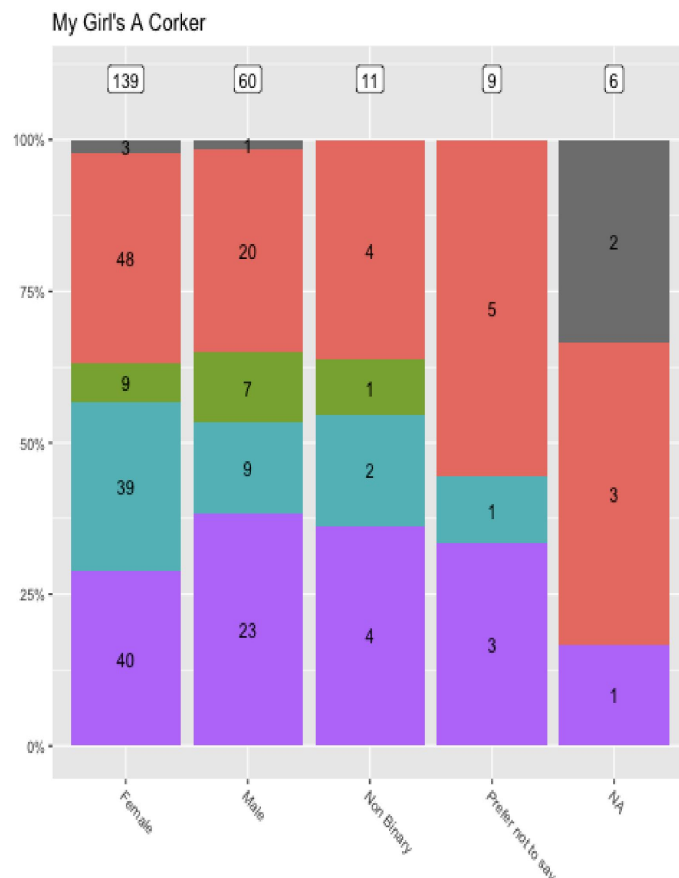
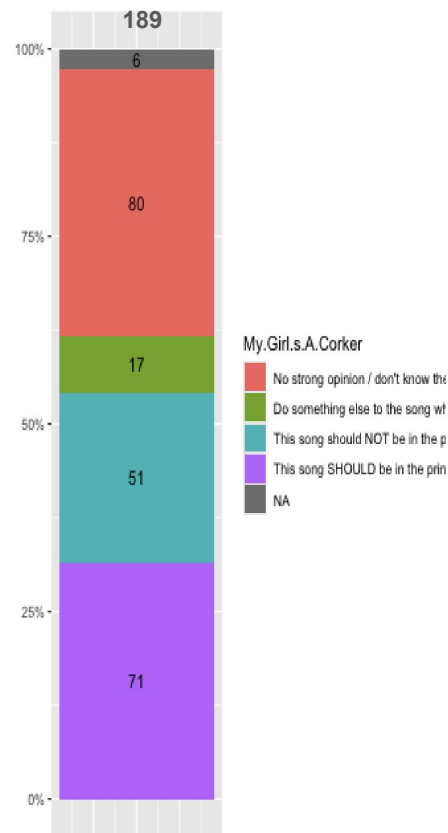
The Banks of the Ohio tells a dark tale that repeats itself daily all over the world and we must not pretend it doesn't. For me the balance is tipped between storytelling and glorification/promotion of poor attitudes.

Please can we take out Banks of the Ohio. It's awful. Justifying femicide and domestic violence murder. A kind of folk incel song.

I mentioned at a glee camp a while ago that there is a final verse to the banks of the Ohio in which he gets taken away and 'justice' is done. Is that then OK?

Then there's the likes of the banks of the ohio. Does anyone seriously hear that and think you are supposed to identify with the narrator. This is a song famously sung by Joan Baez, trying to erase it from existence is insane.

# My Girl's a Corker charts



# My Girl's a Corker Comments

I did comment that 'my girl's a corker' is great if you understand that the hips like battleships etc. are being genuinely admired and loved which is how I understood it as a child actually. So I thought 'I love her great style could sub for 'to keep her in style' which now thinking about as an adult it probably means to CHAnGe her style. I realise that now as an adult but as a child I thought the partner was giving her anything to keep her as she was. It could even be a one word tweak from 'to keep her in style' to 'to keep her great style'. Its got such a romping tune as well so you imagine the singer would love a confident woman with a nose like a fireman's hose?

Maybe with 'My girls a corker' change that's where my money goes to that's where my loving goes.

On my girls a corker, I've only ever heard this song as 'My boys a cowboy!' ; 'hes a new yorker, .... he's got a pair of legs, just like two boiled eggs, etc' - which seems less immediately problematic, though maybe still reinforcing gender stereotypes - worked out I must have learnt it from this version, or a similar one from the singing kettle - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nJNG89qm9k8>

Having said that, re stereotypes, it also works on the context that the female singer is the sole breadwinner providing for the cowboy, which is fun and maybe slightly subversive, basing this on the version above - I guess in textual form, there's no indication of the gender of the singer.

# Songs unsung - additions from lodge survey

Banana Boat Song - questionable racist.

Angels, angel band, I am weary, song for Seth. When you were born you cried.

Songs that glorify alcohol and drinking. eg Whiskey on a Sunday, Alcohol,

Angels and/or Angel Band - don't get sung much, Angel Band is quite hard to sing in my opinion, and it feels a bit much to have anchored in love, angel band AND angels all in a row, how much of the heavenly host can you fit in three pages of songbook.

All things shall perish, careless love, come follow, kookaburra, my goose, old abram brown, this land is your land

Angels, angel band, I am weary, song for Seth. When you were born you cried.

Angels- people have said too much gospel and anchored in love and angel band are more popular

I am weary/ poor old horse as not heard so with asking are they sung/ liked?

Lie, lie, lie - easy lyrics could go on other sidings to sing

I think Clementine, though v famous, is a dismal message (unless we feel appropriate cautionary tale about learning to swim)

Lie lie lie lie (simply because the words for this don't need to be printed in the book)

# Songs unsung - additions from lodge survey

'Clementine' has no redeeming features. 'Yellow Bird' hasn't been sung on FSC for decades and I doubt whether many people remember the tune

Banana boat song? I feel like this gets (rightly) vetoed whenever someone tried to suggest it any more.

All on that day

Alcohol, Auld Triangle, By The Waters Of Babylon, Come To The Colours Johnny, Earth My Body, Hal And Tow, Handsome John Brown, I Am Weary Let Me Rest, I don't want your millions, Lie Lie Lie, One More Pull, Pole Tax Song, See the Little Engines, Sweet Chariot, This Land Is Your Land, Unicorn, Wade In The Water

Dirty Blackleg Miner

Uncomfortable with Jesus- can we cut Anchored in Love? Also Angels. Can we cut Angel and Angel band? PLEASE can we cut moondance.

Queenie, Maids when you're young never wed an old man,

I've not heard The Cutty Wren, Poor Old Horse, Yellow Bird sung