

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910146930303321
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Titolo	The spoken word : oral culture in Britain, 1500-1850 // edited by Adam Fox and Daniel Woolf
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Manchester University Press, 2003 Manchester, England ; ; New York, New York : , : Manchester University Press, , 2018, 2002 New York, New York : , : Palgrave Macmillan, , [date of distribution not identified] ©2002
ISBN	1-5261-3787-9 1-280-73393-4 9786610733934 1-84779-059-3 1-4237-0631-5
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (x, 286 pages) : illustrations; digital file(s)
Collana	Politics Culture and Society in Early Modern Britain
Disciplina	398.0941
Soggetti	Oral tradition - Great Britain Literature and folklore - Great Britain Great Britain Languages Great Britain Social life and customs
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Sommario/riassunto	Human beings have developed a superabundance of ways of communicating with each other. Some, such as writing, are several millennia old. This book focuses on the relationship between speech and writing both within a single language, Welsh, and between two languages, Welsh and English. It demonstrates that the eighteenth-century Scottish clergy used the popular medium of Gaelic in oral and written form to advance the Gospel. The experience of literacy in early modern Wales was often an expression of legal and religious authority reinforced by the spoken word. This included the hearing of

proclamations and other black-letter texts publicly read. Literate Protestant clergymen governed and shaped the Gaelic culture by acting as the bridge-builders between oral and literary traditions, and as arbiters of literary taste and the providers of reading material for newly literate people.

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