

THE EARLY ROXBURGHE CLUB 1812–1835: BOOK CLUB PIONEERS AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE



Shayne Husbands



## The Early Roxburghe Club 1812–1835

Book Club Pioneers and the Advancement of English Literature

By *Shayne Husbands*

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**A new narrative of the formative years of the Roxburghe Club and early nineteenth-century antiquarian culture and its relationship to the emergent popularity and status of English vernacular literature.**

‘A helpful study, distinguished by its careful archival research and insight into the relationship between the history of knowledge and the history of sociable networks. Husbands sheds new light on the early years of the Roxburghe Club and the role that Regency bibliophiles played in the development of literary scholarship.’

—Deidre Lynch, Ernest Bernbaum Professor of Literature, Harvard University, USA

The Roxburghe Club, founded in 1812, has an unbroken publishing history from 1814 to the present day. The Early Roxburghe Club 1812–1835 offers a new narrative for the formative years of the Roxburghe Club, for the ‘bibliomania’ of the Romantic period and for early nineteenth-century antiquarian culture and its relationship to the emergent popularity and status of English vernacular literature. By examining in detail the make-up and membership of the club, including its social and political affinities, this revised history of the first two decades of its existence offers both an alternative view of the early club and its significant contribution to the move between antiquarian and scholarly areas of influence in the study of English literature.

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### About the Author

Shayne Husbands completed her doctoral studies from Cardiff University, UK. Her areas of research include the Roxburghe Club, bibliomania, Joseph Haslewood and the culture of early nineteenth-century book collecting. She has contributed to *Manuscripts and Printed Books in Europe 1350–1550: Packaging, Presentation and Consumption* (2013).

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