

# Press Release

## Albions Glorious Ile

*An historical hand-colouring book of fantastical maps of England & Wales*

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‘Of Albions glorious Ile the Wonders ... I write’  
Michael Drayton, *Poly-Olbion* (1612)

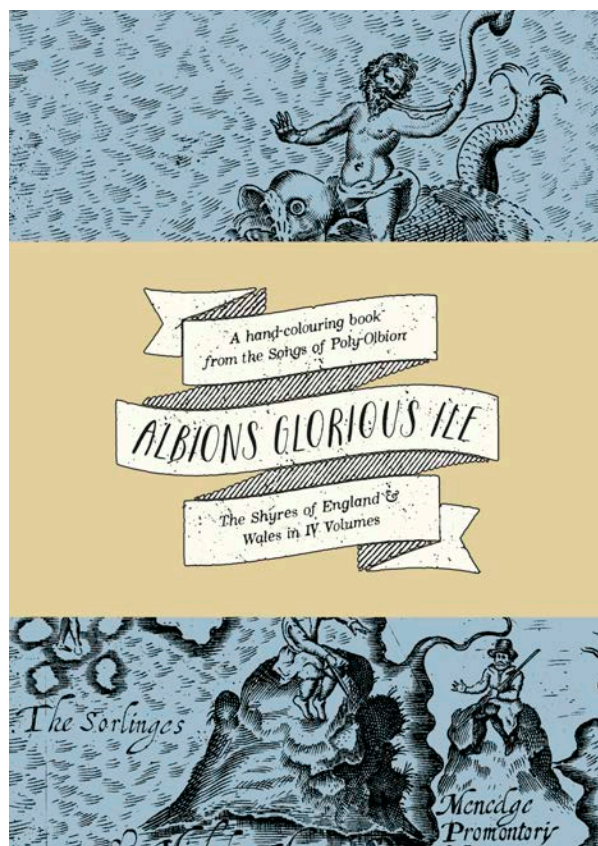
Rivers and floods sing their rich histories; ancient forests lament the axe; mountains threaten war — Michael Drayton’s epic topographical poem, *Poly-Olbion*, first printed in London in 1612 with 30 accompanying maps by William Hole, reveals a hidden, otherworldly Britain: a Jacobean Faerie Land teeming with nymphs, sea monsters, kings, giants, gods and witches.

*Albions Glorious Ile* is an exquisite set of four hand-colouring books featuring Hole’s maps, reproduced at the original size, and collected together in four volumes. Described as “quite the oddest set of maps” ever to be produced, they offer an extraordinary view of a strange, lost England and Wales, where the land is quite literally alive and nothing is quite as it seems. In the words of Michael Drayton, they depict: “every Mountaine, Forrest, River, and Valley, expressing in their sundry postures; their loves, delights, and naturall situations.”

These volumes are very different to other modern colouring books. The art of hand-colouring was popular during the 17th century and beyond and many of the original copies of the Hole maps were subsequently hand-tinted using water-colours. To colour in these maps, then, is to follow in this rich tradition of cartographic embellishment.

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Maps/Landscape/Britain  
British History/Mythology  
Art/Colouring Books



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### Extent

4 volumes  
Each 16pp with 4pp cover

### Size

330 x 216 mm portrait

### Illustrations

Each volume 30 double-page illustrations

### Details

Belly band & sewn spine

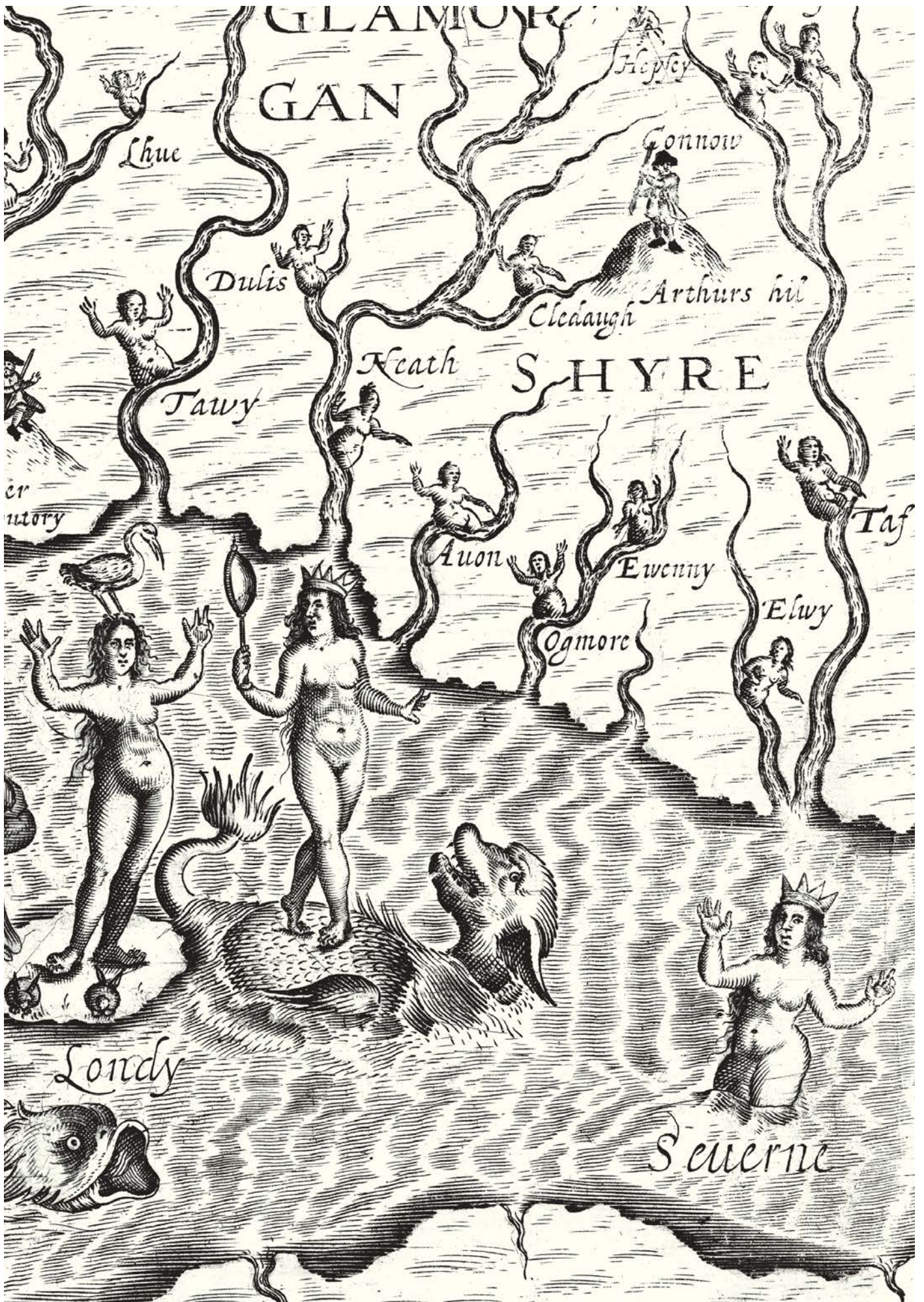
**Published by:** Flash of Splendour

**Printed by:** Aldgate Press, Whitechapel

**ISBN:** 978-0-9564857-1-7

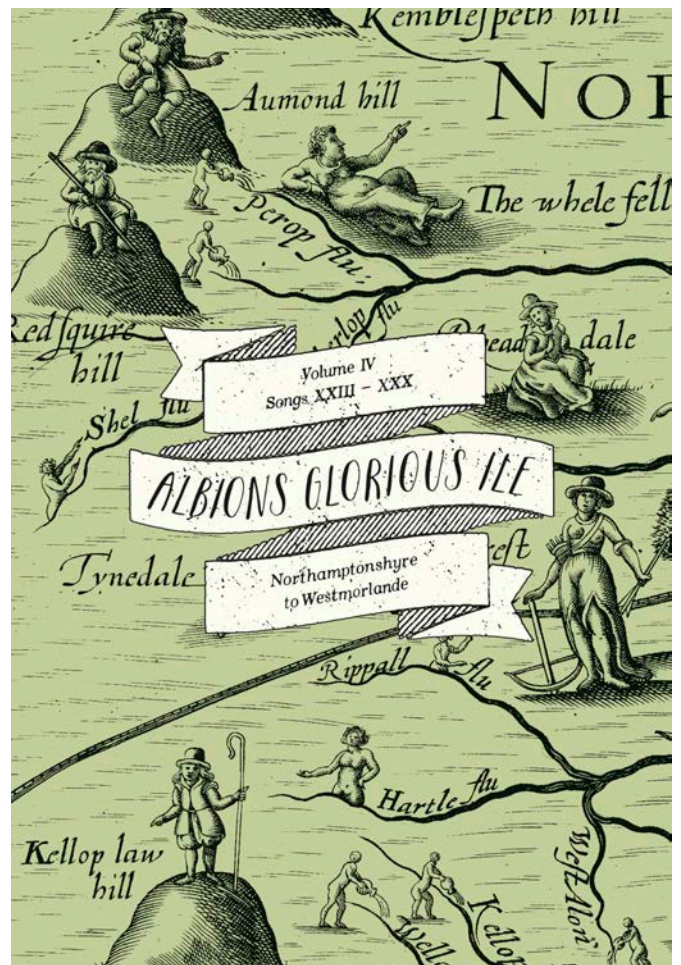
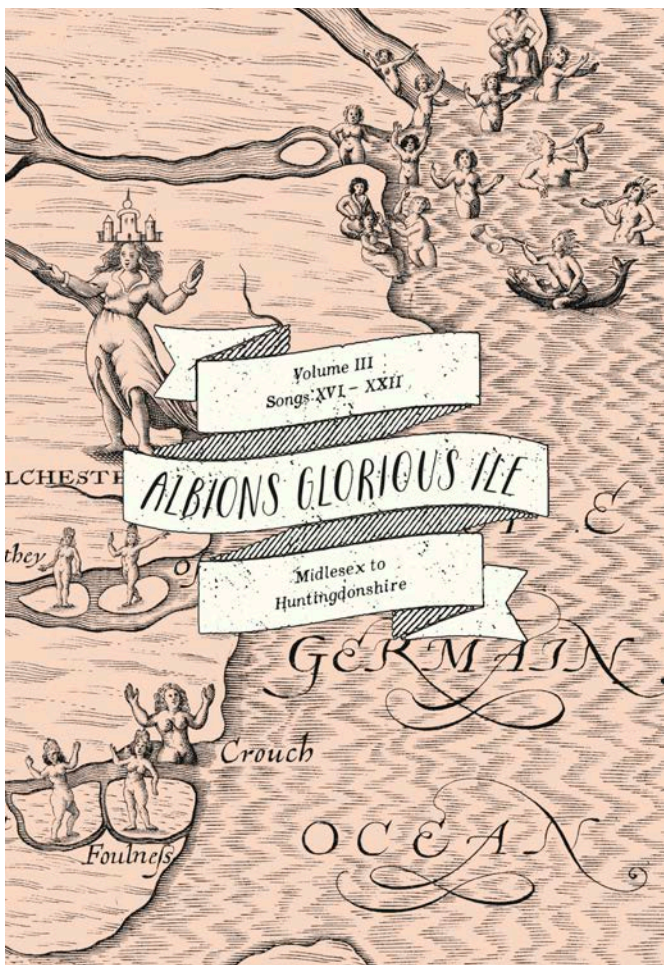
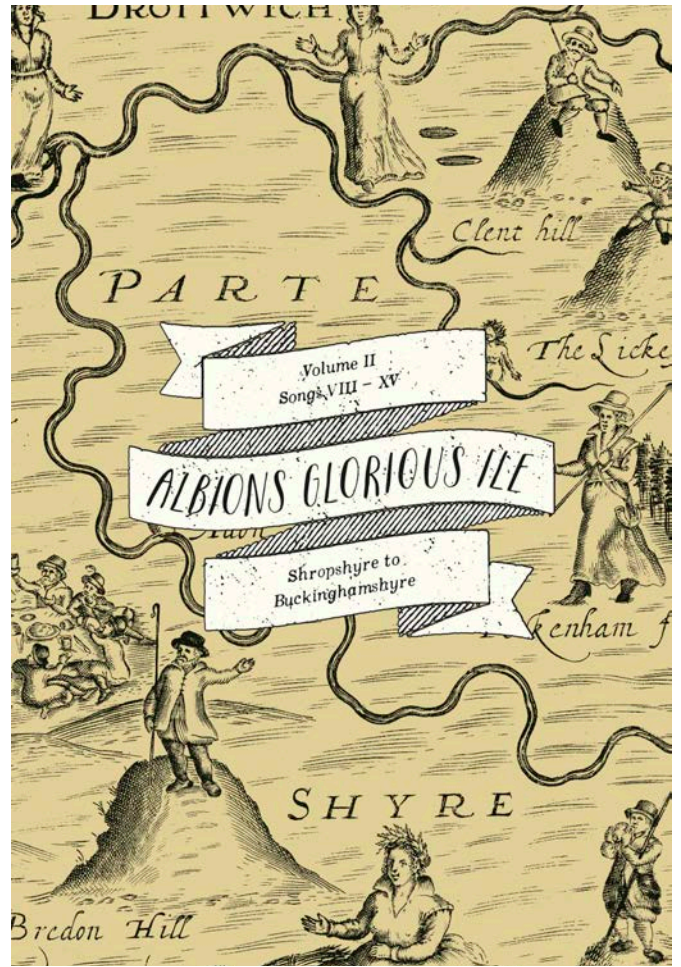
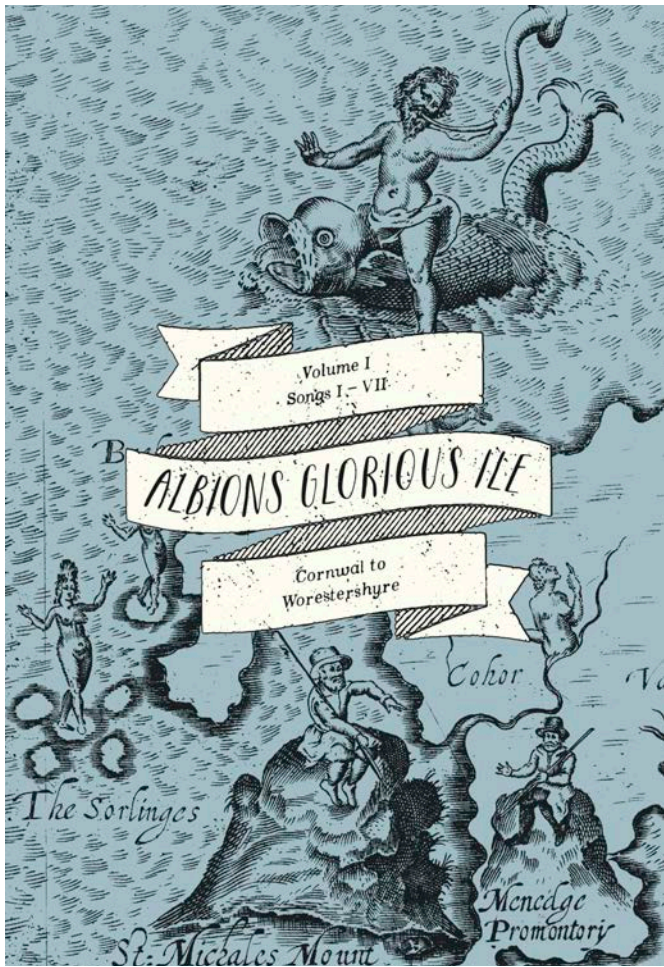
**Price:** £14.99





Example of colouring page





The four cover designs