Mrs. Dalloway Goes “To The Lighthouse”
VIRGINIA WOOLF and KITTY LUSHINGTON

A LECTURE BY DAVID TAYLOR

Thursday, April 28, 2016
4.30 p.m., Class of 1941 Lecture Room
University of Delaware Library

Free and open to the public • Refreshments

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In this lecture, noted British historian David Taylor will use unpublished material from the Lushington archive to reveal the little-known background to Virginia Woolf’s novels *To the Lighthouse* and *Mrs. Dalloway*. Taylor will discuss Woolf’s relationship with her childhood friend Kitty Lushington—the real-life Mrs. Dalloway—and the remarkable and well-connected Lushington family.

The Lushingtons took full and creative parts in all the life around them. Their circle of friends, spread across three generations, reads like a “Who’s Who” of Victorian and Edwardian England and includes names such a Thomas Carlyle, Charles Darwin, Edward Lear, George Eliot, Elizabeth Gaskell, Alfred Tennyson, William Morris, John Ruskin, the Brownings, and Ralph Vaughan Williams. It was Vernon Lushington who famously introduced Edward Burne-Jones to Dante Gabriel Rossetti—a meeting which led to the second phase of the Pre-Raphaelite movement. The Lushingtons were also one of the first promoters of the work Walt Whitman in the UK, earning the American poet’s fulsome praise.

Dr. David Taylor is an historian and author based in Surrey. After many years of persistent enquiry and research, he was fortunate to locate the extensive archive of the Lushington family. Taylor obtained his doctorate from Roehampton University. His thesis was on Vernon Lushington’s role as a follower of Auguste Comte and the development of Positivism in the UK. For this he was awarded the Blackham Fellowship and then the Prix de these Auguste Comte from France. He has spent two years cataloguing the archive.