



Brother Tradesmen (Hard Times of Old England)

Arranged by Caroline Price



efdss

english folk dance society

The Full English

The Full English was a unique nationwide project unlocking hidden treasures of England's cultural heritage by making over 58,000 original source documents from 12 major folk collectors available to the world via a ground-breaking nationwide digital archive and learning project. The project was led by the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and in partnership with other cultural partners across England.

The Full English digital archive (www.vwml.org) continues to provide access to thousands of records detailing traditional folk songs, music, dances, customs and traditions that were collected from across the country. Some of these are known widely, others have lain dormant in notebooks and files within archives for decades.

The Full English learning programme worked across the country in 19 different schools including primary, secondary and special educational needs settings. It also worked with a range of cultural partners across England, organising community, family and adult learning events.

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Arranged by: Caroline Price

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Introduction

This tune for this song was collected in 1949 from James Copper in Rottingdean, Sussex. The set of words used here by Caroline were collected in 1964 from members of the same family who still sing these songs today.

Caroline Price chose to arrange this song, and several others, as part of The Full English community event held at The Met, Bury in on 8 March 2014. Over 50 singers came together to learn material that originated from the North West, led by Caroline and the *Stream of Sound* youth chorus from Stourbridge.

Scores of the other songs Caroline arranged are available for free download at www.efdss.org/resourcebank

Caroline Price and Stream of Sound

Caroline Price is a dynamic choir leader and prolific arranger of folk material! She researched and arranged a variety of songs and warm ups for The Full English community event in Bury.

Stream of Sound is a youth chorus, led by Caroline, who sing a-cappella harmony, and founded on a variety of musical traditions from around the world. They are known for their energetic and inspiring performances, and aim to share their love of harmony with as many people as possible.

Together, Caroline and Stream of Sound run a variety of workshops and events to encourage people to sing.



Photo: Caroline teaching at The Met, Bury (taken by Frances Watt)

Brother Tradesmen (Hard Times of Old England)

collected from James Copper by Francis Collinson, Rottingdean, 1949

<http://www.vwml.org/record/COL/6/25>

Roud Number: 1206

Trad/Arr. Caroline Price

Tune
Come_ all bro - ther trades - men that tra - vel a - lone, Oh pray come and

Alto
Ah Ah Ah a - lone, Oh pray

Tenor
Ah Ah Ah Ah pray

Bass
Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

S.
tell me where_ the trade is all gone. Long time have I trav elled and can not find none, and it's

A.
tell where trade is all gone. Long time have I trav-elled and can-not find none, Oh,

T.
tell where trade is all gone. Long time have I trav-elled and can-not find none, Oh

B.
Ah Ah Ah Long_ time I have trav-elled and can-not find none.

2

14

S. Oh, the hard times of old Eng - land in old

A. Oh, the hard times of old En - ger - land In old

T. Oh, hard times of old Eng - land, Old

B. Oh, hard times of old Eng - land in old

18

S. En - ger - land ve - ry hard times.

A. En - ger - land ve - ry hard times.

T. En - ger - land ve - ry hard times.

B. Eng - land ve - ry hard times.

Hard Times of Old England

Roud no 1206

Collected by Peter Kennedy from the Copper Family of Rottingdean, Sussex in 1964

Come all brother tradesmen that travel alone,
Oh pray, come and tell me where the trade has all gone?
Long time I have travelled and cannot find none.
And it's oh, the hard times of old England,
In old Engerland very hard times.

Now provisions you buy at the shop it is true,
But if you've no money, there's none there for you.
So what's a poor man and his family to do?
And it's oh, the hard times of old England,
In old Engerland very hard times.

If you go to a shop and you ask for a job,
They just answer you there with a shake and a nod.
'Twill make every poor man to turn out and rob!
And it's oh, the hard times of old England,
In old Engerland very hard times.

You see the poor tradesmen a-walking the street
From morning to night, some employment to seek.
And scarcely they have any shoes to their feet.
And it's oh, the hard times of old England,
In old Engerland very hard times.

Our soldiers and sailors have just come from war,
They've fought for their King and their country for sure.
Come home to be starved, should have stayed where they were.
And it's oh, the hard times of old England,
In old Engerland very hard times.

So now to conclude and to finish our song,
Let's hope that these hard times they will not last long.
Then we'll have occasion to alter our song,
And sing, Oh, the good times of old England,
In old Engerland very good times!



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www.vwml.org

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Our award-winning Resource Bank contains over 100 resources – incorporating hundreds of audio files, videos and supporting documents, all free to download. They offer endless practical ways to use folk song, music, dance, drama and more in all sorts of community settings, as well as in formal education.

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