

## SINGING ASSEMBLY KS2 May 2020

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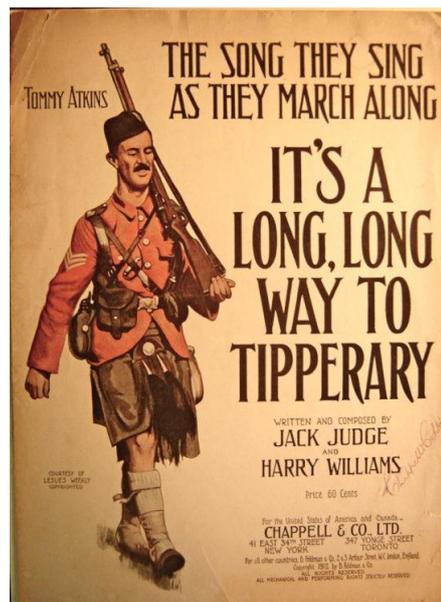
Hello everybody, I hope you're doing well. I hope you're carrying on with learning all of the songs from Mary Poppins.

***I've added your new song to practise but please keep going with Vera Lynn 'We'll Meet Again' which is kept below.***

### **IT'S A LONG WAY TO TIPPERARY** YouTube link

<https://youtu.be/BPoLWMMpXvk>

This song was made popular in 1912, around the time of the First World War. It was sung in music halls which are much like a small concert hall today. There is one venue in Shadwell, East London called Wilton's Music Hall that has been decorated to look similar to the one from 100 years ago. The song was sung by the army in both wars and tells the story of a young Irishman dreaming of returning to Southern Ireland to see his sweetheart.



Up to mighty London came  
An Irish man one day  
All the streets were paved with gold  
So everyone was gay.  
Singing songs of Piccadilly  
Strand, and Leicester Square  
'Til Paddy got excited and  
He shouted to them there:

It's a long way to Tipperary  
It's a long way to go.  
It's a long way to Tipperary  
To the sweetest girl I know!  
Goodbye Piccadilly  
Farewell Leicester Square!  
It's a long long way to Tipperary  
But my heart's right there. **repeat**

Paddy wrote a letter  
To his Irish Molly O'  
Saying, "Should you not receive it,  
Write and let me know!  
If I make mistakes in "spelling"  
Molly dear", said he  
"Remember it's the pen, that's bad  
Don't lay the blame on me".

It's a long way to Tipperary  
It's a long way to go.  
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Goodbye Piccadilly  
Farewell Leicester Square  
It's a long long way to Tipperary  
But my heart's right there. **Repeat**

May 8-10th celebrates 75 years since VE Day, Victory in Europe Day which marks the announced ending of World War Two. On the eve of May 7<sup>th</sup>, millions of people in Britain tuned into the radio to hear that the war had ended (of course it wasn't that simple but it was a momentous occasion). The following day was declared a national holiday and people took to the streets to sing, dance and celebrate!

What songs were people listening to on their gramophones and radios in the 1940s? Well, I can tell you it wasn't what I was listening to when I was at school in the 1990s (Spice Girls, SClub 7, B\*Witched...) During WW2 the popular songs were enjoyed by those at home and those participating in the war effort. Funnily enough, a couple of these songs have come back around again this month so you may be familiar with the one below.

*Vera Lynn – We'll Meet Again*

*YouTube - [https://youtu.be/HsM\\_VmN6ytk](https://youtu.be/HsM_VmN6ytk)*

There are various other YouTube links with lyrics included.



This song was written in 1939 and made popular by Vera Lynn. It was from the musical of the same name with the lead role played by Vera herself. It was particularly famous because it touched the hearts of many; both soldiers going off to war and those bidding farewell to their loved ones. British soldiers were also sent further afield than Europe. In 1944 Vera took a long trip to visit soldiers in Burma and to Bengal. Her visit was to boost the morale of soldiers. She sang songs and kept spirits up. Her songs were of love and hope and they bridged the gap between the distanced soldiers and their loved ones.

### WE'LL MEET AGAIN

We'll meet again  
Don't know where  
Don't know when  
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day  
Keep smiling through  
Just like you always do  
'Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far away

So will you please say hello  
To the folks that I know  
Tell them I won't be long  
They'll be happy to know  
That as you saw me go  
I was singing this song  
We'll meet again  
Don't know where  
Don't know when  
But I know we'll meet again some sunny day

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