‘Then & Now’ – Rebuilding Lives After the Great War

SINGING WORKSHOP No. 8 – 10 October 2018 – 1.15 – 3.15

COLONEL FRANK SEELY ACADEMY – YEAR 7 (2 x 1hr) - 35 PUPILS (each class)

LEARNING AREA: SONGS FROM WW1, SINGING IN ROUNDS, SINGING HARMONIES

**WARM UP - Singing**

**Breathing**

* Breathe in for 8 out for 4, in for 8 out for 8, in for 8 out for 12, in for 8 out for 16, in for 8 out for 20, in for 8 out for 24 etc.
* See how high you can get up to.

**Lip Trill**

* Using the same breath control, gently blowing air through relaxed closed lips so that they vibrate to create a sound, (A sound like a car or horse). To help with relaxation place the index finger on each hand on the bottom of your cheeks on the jaw bone and push up to create ‘chubby’ cheeks and therefore more relaxed lips.
* Next step is to add voice. Starting with just one note being hummed for the whole length of breath and changing the note on each new intake of breath. Once that has been done for a few breaths start to glide up and down between all notes seeing how high and how low the voice will go

**Voice - Scales**

* This is a 5 note scale starting on a F below middle C (or whatever is best for the group) singing on the vowel E, singing up to the C and back down again to the F, the note C is then repeated and back to the F.
* This is then repeated going up the piano scale to however high the group are capable of.
* The same sequence is then repeated on the vowel O and then same again on the vowel A (pronounced Ah).

**Words - Tongue Twisters**

* Using the words Pappati Peppati go up the scale starting on a middle C the word pappati would be sang on the notes C D E and peppati would be sang on the notes D E F then back to pappati on E F G and so on and so forth seeing how quickly the words and exercise can be done.
* The consonant is then changed to a T, Tattati Tettati, or a S, Sassati Sessati. Making sure the group are really moving their mouths to warm up the lips and faces.

**Number Scale**

* Targeting the voice, words and memory this exercise consists of counting from 1-8 and back down again however with each step each number is repeated.
* Starting on middle C the notes to numbers are, C-1, D-2, E-3, F-4, G-5, A-6, B-7, C-8.
* The sequence would then go, 1, 1-2-1, 1-2-3-2-1, 1-2-3-4-3-2-1, until you reach 8.
* This is then repeated coming back down the scale. 8, 8-7-8, 8-7-6-7-8, 8-7-6-5-6-7-8, until you reach 1.
* f the group want a challenge ask someone for a number between 1 and 8 and that given number the group have to now clap instead of sing

**Introduction to some WW1 songs**

**Pack Up Your Troubles in your old kit-bag**

* World War Onemarching song, published in 1915 in [London](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London).
* Written by Welsh songwriter [George Henry Powell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Henry_Powell) under the pseudonym of "George Asaf", and set to music by his brother [Felix Powell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Felix_Powell).
* It was featured in the American show *Her Soldier Boy*, which opened in December 1916.
* A later play presented by the [National Theatre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_National_Theatre) recounts how these [music hall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_hall) stars rescued the song from their rejects pile and re-scored it to win a wartime competition for a [marching song](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March_(music)).
* It became very popular, boosting British morale despite the horrors of that war. It was one of a large number of [music hall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_hall) songs aimed at maintaining morale, recruiting for the forces, or defending Britain's war aims.

**Pack Up Your Troubles in your old kit-bag**

Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag  
And smile, smile, smile  
[While you've a lucifer to light your fag](https://genius.com/Florrie-forde-pack-up-your-troubles-in-your-old-kit-bag-lyrics#note-12483723)  
Smile, boys, that's the style!  
What's the use of worrying?  
It never was worthwhile  
So pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag  
And smile, smile, smile  
  
Pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag  
And smile, smile, smile  
[While you've a lucifer to light your fag](https://genius.com/Florrie-forde-pack-up-your-troubles-in-your-old-kit-bag-lyrics#note-12483723)  
Smile, boys, that's the style!  
What's the use of worrying?  
It never was worthwhile  
So pack up your troubles in your old kit-bag  
And smile, smile, smile

Discussion of meaning of song and Information given

* Lucifer matches are a type of match that was popular in the 20th century. They had a few issues such as having a violent reaction when lit and an unsteady flame.
* “Lucifer” also became a slang term for matches throughout [World War I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_I) and the slang still persists in the Dutch language.
* In modern British English the word ‘fag’ is informal slang for “cigarette”.
* The singer is saying that as long as you’ve got matches to light your ciggy you might as well smile.

Task:

* Sing through the song with piano accompaniment to perfect the tune and rhythm.
* Divide the group into 4 sections and sing the song as a round – the next group beginning after the first group sing ‘smile, smile, smile’ the first time i.e. one line apart.
* Sing it through a couple of times.

**Goodbye-ee**

* A popular song which was written and composed by [R. P. Weston](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R._P._Weston) and [Bert Lee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bert_Lee). Performed by [music hall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_hall) stars [Florrie Forde](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florrie_Forde), [Daisy Wood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daisy_Wood), and Charles Whittle.
* It was a hit in 1917.
* Weston and Lee got the idea for the song when they saw a group of factory girls calling out goodbye to soldiers marching to [Victoria station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_Victoria_station). They were saying the word in the exaggerated way which had been popularised as a [catchphrase](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catchphrase) by comedian [Harry Tate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_Tate).
* The song lent its name to "[Goodbyeee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goodbyeee)", the final episode of the sitcom [*Blackadder Goes Forth*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blackadder_Goes_Forth).

**Goodbye-ee**

Goodbye-ee! Goodbye-ee

Wipe a tear, baby dear, from your eye-ee,

Though it's hard to part, I know

I'll be tickled to death to go

Don't cry-ee! Don't sigh-ee!

There's a silver lining in the sky-ee

Bon soir old thing! Cheerio, chin-chin!

Nahpoo! Toodleoo! Goodbye-ee!

Discussion of meaning of song and Information given

* The salutations at the end of the chorus are from various languages.
  + *Bonsoir* is French for goodnight.
  + *Chin chin* is a Chinese toast.
  + "Nahpoo" and "toodle-oo" are corruptions of the French *il n'y en a plus* (there is no more) and *à tout à l'heure* (see you later)

Task:

* Sing through the song with piano accompaniment to perfect the tune and rhythm.
* Divide the group into those who identify themselves as singers with a higher pitched voice and those with a lower pitched voice.
* Teach the lower harmonies for the ‘Goodbye-ee’ & ‘Don’t cry-ee’ sections
* Sing it through a couple of times.

**It's a Long Way to Tipperary**

* It is a British [music hall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_hall) song written by Henry James "Harry" Williams and Jack Judge.
* It was allegedly written for a 5-[shilling](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shilling_(British_coin)) bet in [Stalybridge](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stalybridge) on 30 January 1912 and performed the next night at the local music hall.
* Now commonly called "It's a Long Way to Tipperary", the original printed music calls it "**It's a Long, Long Way to Tipperary**".
* It became popular among soldiers in the [First World War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_World_War) and is remembered as [a song of that war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_song#World_War_I_songs).
* Welcoming signs in the referenced county of [Tipperary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/County_Tipperary), Ireland, humorously declare, "You've come a long long way..." in reference to the song.
* The song is also an example of a partner song, or [simultaneous quodlibet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quodlibet), in that the chorus of the song can be sung at the same time as another well-known music hall song, "[Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit-Bag](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pack_Up_Your_Troubles_in_Your_Old_Kit-Bag)", in perfect harmony.

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.

Task:

* Sing through the song with piano accompaniment to perfect the tune and rhythm.
* Sing it through a couple of times.
* Sing all three songs in succession

Discussion and questions about the songs and contexts.