



Late June Come Singing newsletter

Dear Everyone,

Well, it surely is summer now - 29 degrees at the last check! The thunder forecast for later might bring some relief but will it flatten the roses? They have been so beautiful this year, with scents as lovely as their names - rosebuds of Duchesse de Montebello and Cecile Brunner,



and wonderful Gertrude Jekyll... I'm no gardener, and have been grateful every day for the generosity of nature in surviving my clumsy efforts and giving such joy!



After the last big rains it was alarming to see how fast everything grew and expanded - rather like those Vesta curries where you have to 'just add water' and it's transformed before your very eyes...



Suddenly everything was twice the size: geraniums were swamping the irises, redcurrants were taking over the runner bean poles and lilac suckers popping up in the most unexpected places.

Or perhaps that's just my garden??



I love the seed-packet list in 'English Country gardens' and the insects in verse two. The birds in verse three sound a bit American to me, but perhaps you could make up your own?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L0XnfUdSghg>

*How many kinds of sweet flowers grow
In an English country garden?
We'll tell you now of some that we know
Those we miss you'll surely pardon
Daffodils, heart's ease and phlox
Meadowsweet and lady smocks
Gentian, lupin and tall hollyhocks
Roses, foxgloves, snowdrops, forget-me-nots
In an English country garden*



*How many insects come here and go
In an English country garden?
We'll tell you now of some that we know
Those we miss you'll surely pardon
Fireflies, moths and bees
Spiders climbing in the trees
Butterflies drift in the gentle breeze
There are snakes, ants that sting
And other creeping things
In an English country garden.*

If you dare to leave your garden and have the means to get away for a while, where would you go? For me it would be Northumberland or Cromer, but I'm happy to stay here for a while yet... Teresa's quiz is full of destinations a bit further afield!

TRAVEL PLANS AND ON THE MOVE:

1. All my bags are packed – to do what? A John Denver song made popular by Peter, Paul and Mary.
2. He saw a welcoming light and stopped to rest for the night – how far was he from home?



3. Dionne Warwick sings “Do you know the way” - to where will she find some peace of mind?
4. What departs on track twenty nine?
5. A day trip by bus to the seaside – where did they go to?

6. This person loves to walk and sing, especially on high terrain. What is he called? Join in with the chorus please.

7. This person is flying off to see his girlfriend somewhere in the sunny Caribbean sea – where is his destination?

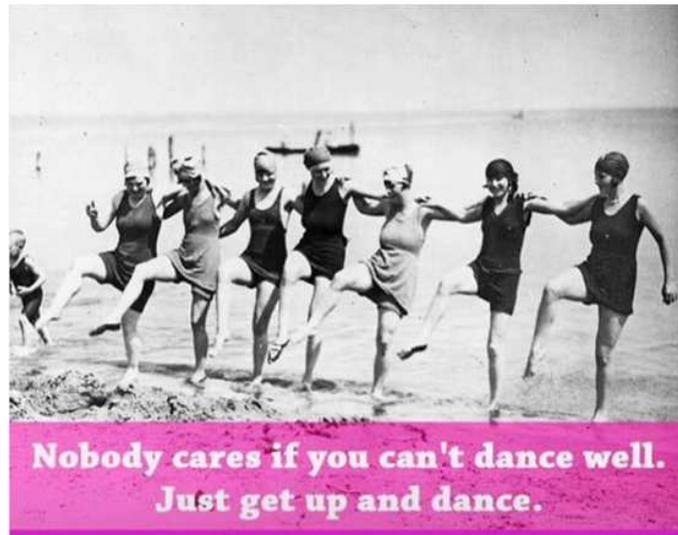
8. A train ride many miles away, bound for where? A hit for The Seekers.

9. This chap needs a map! He's asking the way to somewhere in Texas, yearning to join the girl who's waiting for him – where does she live?

10. This person likes to travel, he doesn't own a lot but he's a man of means by no means. What does he call himself?



Dabbling my toes in the sea would be enough... All together now:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmJVXHLjVhk>



But staying home has many advantages. The soft fruit will soon be ripening, you have the luxury of your own bed - and the food is good!

Do you remember the rhymes we used to say for counting cherry stones - or plums or whatever was in the crumble?

Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor,
Rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief
or
One, two, three, four, Mary at the cottage door.
Five, six, seven, eight, eating cherries off a plate.



or this one, which I always thought was for magpies:



One for sorrow, two for joy,
Three for a girl and four for a boy.
Five for solver, six for gold
Seven for a secret never to be told.

So I'll stay home, enjoy the garden, go out for picnics and make summer pudding with the redcurrants and loganberries. Here's a recipe which looks promising - I could adapt it for my fruit bushes, and have it with Greek yogurt or custard....

Summer pudding

1 il raspberries

8oz red currants

8 oz blackcurrants

6 oz sugar

slices of white bread (crusts removed)

Simmer the currants briefly with sugar and a little water until soft, and cook the raspberries separately. Line a basin with strips of bread to make a close-knit mould with no gaps. Put the currants in first, and the raspberries on top with a lid of more bread to cover them. Then place a saucer on top with a heavy weight and leave the pudding overnight to set. The next day, turn it out carefully and enjoy with cream or custard - wonderful!



Let's hope there will be lots of picnics, sunny days and gentle overnight showers. Enjoy your summer, serenade the long evenings and keep well and happy.

With love from everyone at Come Singing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZANKFxcRKU>

ANSWERS

1. I'm Leaving on a Jet Plane.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVQAhhIq798>
2. Only 24 Hours from Tulsa, Gene Pitney.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zugy2rkSM7g>
3. Do You Know the Way to San Jose? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2UpwpTAd8U>
4. The Chattanooga Choo Choo, The Andrews Sisters with the Glenn Miller Orchestra. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gwcNg07NhjU>
5. The Day we Went to Bangor, Fiddler's Dram.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SVCVHhxGC-w>
6. The Happy Wanderer, The Stargazers.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UPfGL0tDP30>
7. We're Going to Barbados, Typically Tropical.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ALD-rl8Q08>
8. Morningtown Ride. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wqdaCOt51Dk>
9. Amarillo, Tony Christie. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69xk1aBEL_E
10. King of the Road, Roger Miller.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qk_hPTN50UE