



Come Singing October newsletter

Dear All,

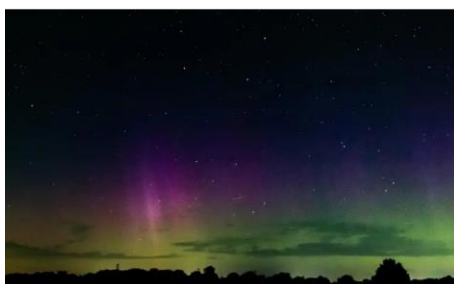
The sudden cold snap last week sent us into a flat spin, scurrying to find vests, body warmers and hot water bottles, but some mornings recently have felt like a warm bath again! Time was, when gloves and a scarf were normal for mid-October but now you never can tell.

And it's so very beautiful... Leaves are glorious, especially against brilliant blue skies, and the dawns and sunsets too when you happen to catch them ...Simply looking upwards lifts the heart!



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEMCeymW1Ow>

Perhaps you saw the aurora and last night's supermoon?? The 'merry dancers' were often visible in childhood from Thurso at the very northern tip of Scotland, but I never imagined seeing them so far south. Even the name – borealis – comes from the Greek Boreas, god of the cold north wind...



In a spirit of meteorological appreciation, here are a few songs about clouds, skies and their various moods. Can you think of a suitable song for every need or situation?

1. A view to give refuge from the noise and busyness of the big city.
2. Promise of love and escape: 'We could float among the stars together, you and I... Suspended under a twilight canopy...We'll find a cloud to hide us, keep the moon beside us...'
3. What would you say if a man dressed like a Union Jack flew past your 99th floor window?



4. Optimism! I was blue, just as blue as I could be, ev'ry day was a cloudy day for me. Then good luck came a-knocking at my door - Skies were grey but they're not anymore....
5. I'm laughing at clouds so high up above; the sun's in my heart and I'm ready for love!
6. Regret, like a 'dark cloud hanging over me...'
7. The personification of sunshine is living here today!
8. Clouds castles in the air...
9. Things are getting better '...the rain is gone. I can see all obstacles in my way... Gone are the dark clouds that had me blind'...
10. A poignant thought from Glenn Miller – 'What does a flyer think of when he's up there in the sky? Ask any army pilot and he'll answer with a song...'

And how about the tangerine trees and marmalade skies of Lucy in the sky with diamonds!



Autumn often inspires golden, wistful poetry, like the last of the summer wine.

Bird migration prompts Rachel Field's 'Something told the wild geese':

Something told the wild geese
It was time to go,
Though the fields lay golden
Something whispered, "snow."

Leaves were green and stirring,
Berries, luster-glossed,
But beneath warm feathers
Something cautioned, "frost."

All the sagging orchards
Steamed with amber spice,
But each wild breast stiffened
At remembered ice.

Something told the wild geese
It was time to fly,
Summer sun was on their wings,
Winter in their cry.



And I love these lines from Wendell Berry's 'What we need is here':

... Geese appear high over us,
pass, and the sky closes. Abandon,
as in love or sleep, holds
them to their way, clear
in the ancient faith: what we need
is here. And we pray, not
for new earth or heaven, but to be
quiet in heart, and in eye,
clear. What we need is here.

Whether or not your orchards are still sagging and steaming, there's something magical about the names of apples – Blenheim Orange, D'Arcy Spice, Ashmead's Kernel. Norfolk Beefing...



You don't need anyone to tell you how to make an apple crumble, but do you ever try adding a little grated lemon or orange rind to the fruit? Who'd have thought that something so simple would make such a delicious difference!



Whatever your taste in puddings, we wish you a golden October start to the autumn. Perhaps you'll be able to join us for singing at the Millennium Library on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 10.45 – 11.45, or at Earlham Library on 3rd Fridays, 11.15 – 12.15? We'll need songs and good company all the more as the days draw in...

With every best wish and love from all at Come Singing.

Sky song answers

1. Waterloo sunset <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JuQvZkJKszk>
2. Up, up and away <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UKkNlwpajNk>
3. Hey you, get off my cloud! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qUDMzhlefMs>
4. Blue skies <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h3ucrf01600>
5. Singing in the rain <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjqyDgbmU-U>
6. Yesterday <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NrgmdOz227I>
7. Mr Blue Sky <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQUIA8Hcv4s>
8. Joni Mitchell - Both sides
now <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7cBf0oIE9Yc>
9. I can see clearly now <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0cAWgTPiwM>
10. With my head in the clouds <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-eZ8BtHcl4>

And Lucy...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LgR6UNeQxXE>