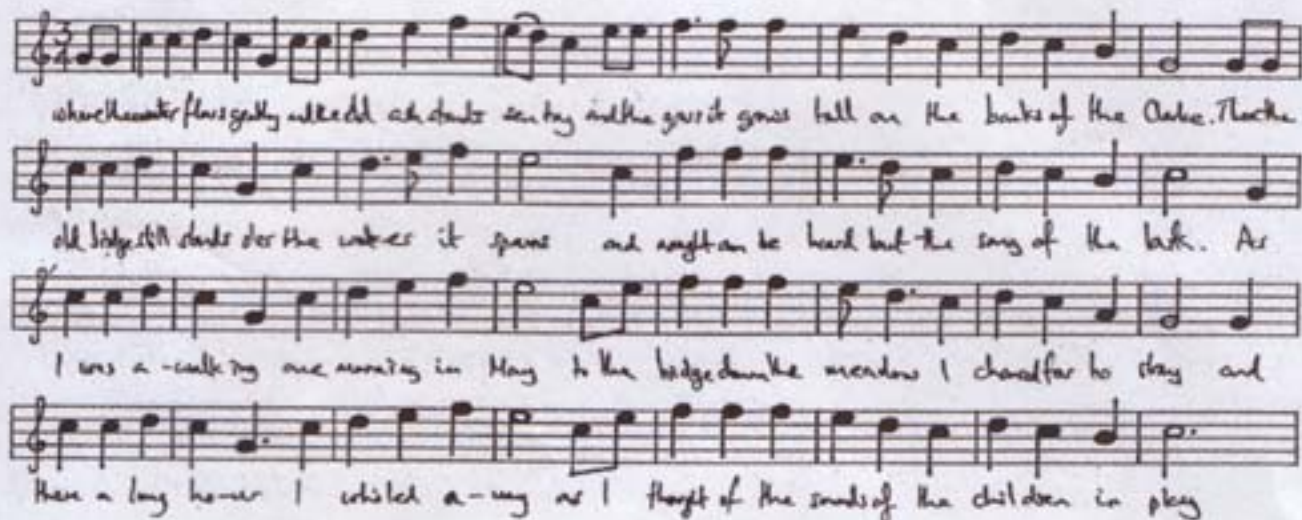


# THE BRIDGE DOWN THE MEADOW

WARMLY  
STRONGLY

WORDS AND MUSIC  
BY GRAEME MEEK



where the water flows gently and the old ash stands sentry and the grass it grows tall on the banks of the Clarke. There the old bridge still stands over the water it spans and nought can be heard but the song of the lark. As I was a-walking one morning in May to the bridge down the meadow I chanced far to stray and there a long hour I whiled away as I thought of the sounds of the children in play

1. As I was a-walking one morning in May  
To the bridge down the meadow I chanced for to stray,  
And there a long hour I whiled away  
As I thought of the sounds of the children in play

2. As children we played every long summer's day.  
We paddled and swam in the old River Clarke.  
By the bridge we saw many an hour away  
'Til we made our way homeward as the evening grew dark

## Chorus:

Where the water flows gently  
And the old ash stands sentry  
And the grass, it grows tall on the banks of the Clarke,  
There the old bridge still stands,  
O'er the water it spans,  
And nought can be heard but the song of the lark.

3. As the prodigal son in the story long told,  
After many long years I return to the fold,  
But the bridge down the meadow looks tired and old;  
The stone it is worn and the water is cold.

4. Bring stone and bring mortar and bricks by the score  
And we'll carry them down to the old river's shore  
And there we shall build them by two and by four  
'Til the bridge down the meadow stands proudly once more

Copyright © Graeme Meek 2003



An important landmark to Gravenhurst villagers, Cowbridge - as it is now called - was saved from dereliction in 2003 in a campaign by local volunteers. The bridge has evolved in many ways over the years: sandstone augmented by brick and then concrete. The River Clarke has since been known as Campton Brook and, in recent times, the River Hit. The old pollarded ash tree still stands near the bridge and this peaceful area was very popular with young children in the days when it was safer for them to be allowed out without parental supervision.

# OVER THE BRIDGE

MUSIC BY  
BARRY GOODMAN

GENTLY

The musical score consists of four staves of music in treble clef, 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a fermata over the first measure and is marked 'A'. The second staff ends with a fermata over the final two measures. The third staff begins with a fermata over the first measure and is marked 'B'. The fourth staff ends with a fermata over the final two measures. The music is a waltz, characterized by its 3/4 time signature and gentle melody.

A waltz written in commemoration of the opening of the restored  
'Cow Bridge' near Gravenhurst, Beds on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2003.

Copyright © Barry Goodman 2003

Barry Goodman is a member of song duo *Life and Times* and dance band *Time of Your Life*.  
see [www.lifeandtimes.info](http://www.lifeandtimes.info), [www.timeofyourlife.info](http://www.timeofyourlife.info) & [http://mysite.froeserve.com/graeme\\_meek](http://mysite.froeserve.com/graeme_meek)