Nuclear Ban Burns' Night

Hosted by Protest in Harmony to celebrate the entry into force of the UN Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and Rabbie Burns' 262nd birthday, January 2021.

A Man's A Man For A' That

Robert Burns, 1783

Is there for honest poverty
That hangs his head, an' a' that
The coward slave, we pass him by
We dare be poor for a' that
For a' that, an' a' that
Our toils obscure an' a' that,
The rank is but the guinea's stamp
The man's the gowd for a' that

What though on hamely fare we dine
Wear hoddin grey, an' a' that
Gie fools their silks, and knaves their wine
A man's a man, for a' that
For a' that, an' a' that
Their tinsel show an' a' that
The honest man, though e'er sae poor
Is king o' men for a' that

Ye see yon birkie ca'd a lord
Wha struts an' stares an' a' that
Tho' hundreds worship at his word
He's but a coof for a' that
For a' that, an' a' that
The man o' independent mind
He looks an' laughs at a' that

A prince can mak' a belted knight
A marquise, duke, an' a' that
But an honest man's aboon his might
Gude faith, he maunna fa' that
For a' that an' a' that
Their dignities an' a' that
The pith o' sense an' pride o' worth
Are higher rank that a' that

Then let us pray that come it may
(as come it will for a' that)
That Sense and Worth, o'er a' the earth
Shall bear the gree an' a' that
For a' that an' a' that
It's coming yet for a' that
That man to man, the world o'er
Shall brithers be for a' that

The Freedom Come All Ye

Tune: Bloody Fields of Flanders; Words: Hamish Henderson, 1961

Roch the wind in the clear day's dawin
Blaws the cloods heelster-gowdie ower the bay
But there's mair nor a roch wind blawin
Through the great glen o' the warld the day.
It's a thocht that will gar oor rottans
A' they rogues that gang gallus, fresh and gay
Tak the road, and seek ither loanins
For their ill ploys, tae sport and play.

Nae mair will the bonnie callants
Mairch tae war when oor braggarts crousely craw
Nor wee weans frae pit-heid and clachan
Mourn the ships sail-ing doon the Broomielaw,
Broken faimlies in lands we've herriet
Will curse Scotland the Brave nae mair, nae mair;
Back and white, ane til ither mairriet,
Mak the vile bar-racks o' their maisters bare.

So come a' ye at hame wi' Freedom,
Niver heid whit the hood-ies croak for doom.
In your hoose a' the bairns o' Adam
Can find breid, barley-bree and painted room.
When Maclean meets wi's freens in Springburn,
A' thae roses and geens will turn tae bloom,
And a black lad frae yont Nyanga
Dings the fell gallows o' the burghers doon.

Auld Lang Syne

Robert Burns, 1788

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne.
For auld lang syne, my jo, for auld lang syne,
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet, for auld lang syne.

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere! and gie's a hand o' thine!
And we'll tak a right gude-willy waught, for auld lang syne.
For auld lang syne, my jo,
For auld lang syne,
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

Come My Sisters

Tune: Burns' 'Rantin' Dog', new tune by Derek Hoy Words: Margaret Bremner, 2017

Wha can help me face my fears Wha has held me doon the years Wha has led me oft astray Lit up the road and led the way?

Wha for freedom cut the chains Wha wid die tae feed their weans Wha stood for equality The right to choose, for liberty?

Come my sisters, sing out now
Dry your tears and smooth your furrowed brow
Shelter 'neath the freedom tree
And dance a lichtsome reel wi' me

Wha can see through myths and lies See beyond their suits and ties Wha ken people matter mair Than profit margins, they're no fair!

Wha for peace tak up the cause Wha will brak corrupted laws Wha together know they're strong And join wi' me tae sing this song

Come my sisters, sing out now
Dry your tears and smooth your furrowed brow
Shelter 'neath the freedom tree
And dance a lichtsome reel wi' me



(Jean Armour, who married Robert Burns)



ICAN Can-Can

Tune: Offenbach Words: Jane Lewis, 2018 (updated 2020)

We say we will dance the can-can, with our friends at ICAN,
Till the U K government signs up to ban the Bomb, so we will dance the can-can, with our friends at ICAN,
Now the UN Treaty is in force. (x2)

Many states have ratified and we will not be satisfied, Till the world is free of nuclear weapons we will keep on dancing,

Many states have ratified and we will not be satisfied,
Till the world is free of nuclear weapons we will dance!

Sign the Treaty, make the world a safer place Sign the Treaty, make the world a safer place Sign the Treaty, make the world a safer place Sign the treaty, let us live in peace, in peace, in peace, in peace, in peace, SO –

We say we will dance the can-can, with our friends at ICAN,
Till the U K government signs up to ban the Bomb, so we will dance the can-can, with our friends at ICAN,
Now the UN Treaty is in force. (x2)

Carry Greenham Home

Peggy Seeger, 1983

Hand in hand, the line extends All around the nine-mile fence, Thirty-thousand women chant, Bring the messsage home.

Carry Greenham home, yes, Nearer home and far away, Carry Greenham home.

Singing voices, rising higher, Weave a dove into the wire, In our hearts a blazing fire, Bring the message home.

Carry Greenham home, yes, Nearer home and far away, Carry Greenham home.

No one asked us if we cared If Cruise should be stationed here, Now we've got them running scared, Bring the message home.

Carry Greenham home, yes, Nearer home and far away, Carry Greenham home.

Here we sit, here we stand, Here we claim the common land; Nuclear arms shall not command, Bring the message home.

Carry Greenham home, yes, Nearer home and far away, Carry Greenham home.

Singing voices, sing again, To the children, to the men, From the Channel to the glens, Bring the message home.

Carry Greenham home, yes, Nearer home and far away, Carry Greenham home.

Not the nightmare, not the scream, Just the loving human dream Of peace, the everflowing stream, Bring the message home. Carry Greenham home, yes, Nearer home and far away, Carry Greenham home.

Woman tiger, woman dove, Help to save the world we love, Velvet fist in iron glove, Bring the message home.

Carry Greenham home, yes, Nearer home and far away, Carry Greenham home.



Stand Up

Some Greenham Women

Stand up, women make your choice, Create a world without nuclear threat, For together we are strong, Break the nuclear chain.

