

The story

GIVE A DOG A BONE is the story of Mickey Merry and his dog Ringo, and their struggle with the King of the Rats to stop him from turning everybody into animals and so getting control of the world. King Rat has magic power, so that whenever he can persuade somebody to say "I couldn't care less", King Rat can turn him into an animal. In this way people become animals without even knowing it.

Mickey and Ringo are helped by Mr Space, a visitor from another planet. The villagers run away in fright when they see him coming (Something in the air). Ringo tells Mr Space that everyone wants his bone (Bone, Sweet Bone). Ringo, who is often mischievous, likes to run away when Mickey calls him (Have you seen my dog?). Mickey invites Mr Space to his home, where Pa Merry sits and grumbles all day (In my rocking chair) and Ma Merry fusses and nags and only says "Don't". There is no food in the house and Mickey can only dream of all the good things they might have had to eat (I dream of ice-cream). Mickey leaves home with Ringo to seek his fortune in London. They are sure that somewhere ahead there is a new and better day dawning (Somewhere).

In London King Rat, who has already turned most people into animals, tries to persuade Mickey to say "I couldn't care less", but Mickey refuses (/ care). He and Mr Space try to turn all the animals back into humans, but Mickey finds he must start by putting things right himself (When I point my finger at my neighbour). At last they manage to persuade a very proud pig, Lord Swill, to say the three magic words. Then all the other animals follow, so they are all turned into humans again to their great delight (Please, Thank you and Sorry). Ringo has always been a dog and is happy to stay that way. He sings with Mickey What is a man without a dog? Lord Swill invites them all to a ball at Swill Hall. King Rat is defeated and Mr Space departs for his own planet from this Wonderful world.



SONGS from GIVE A DOG A BONE

Lyrics by PETER HOWARD

Music by GEORGE FRASER

Arranged by PENELOPE THWAITES

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There's something in the air



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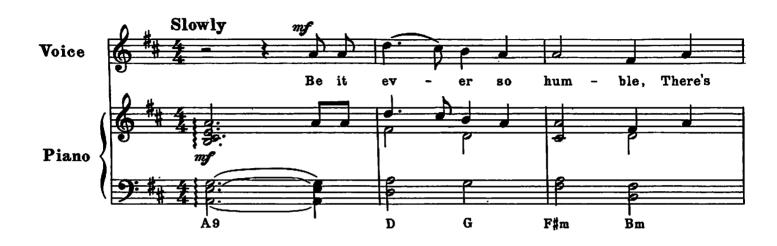
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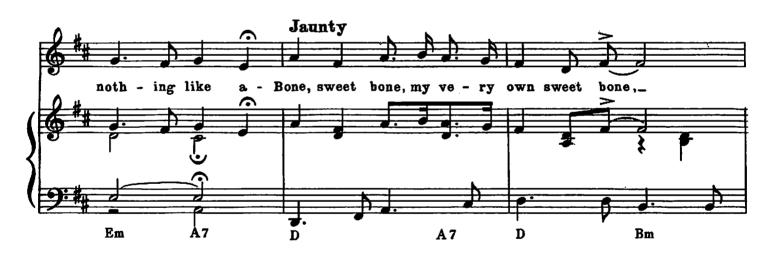


Bone sweet bone

Lyric by PETER HOWARD

Music by GEORGE FRASER







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Have you seen my dog?



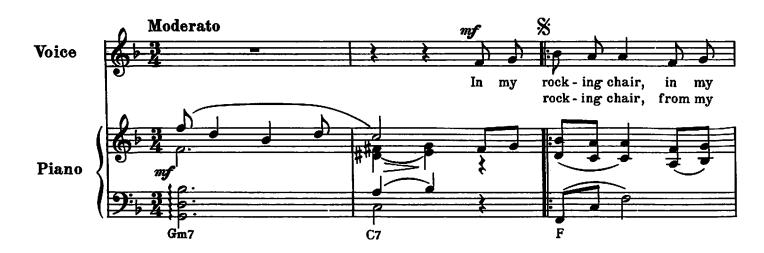


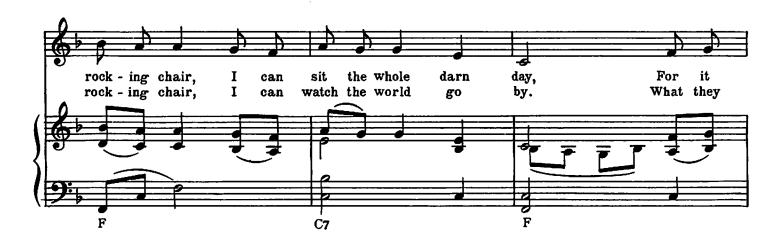


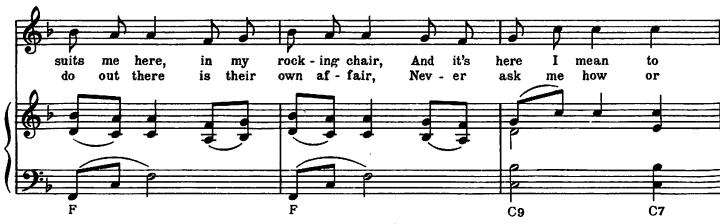
In my rocking chair

Lyric by
PETER HOWARD

Music by GEORGE FRASER







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I dream of ice cream



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Somewhere



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I care





Dm

When I point my finger at my neighbour



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Please, Thank you and Sorry



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What is a man without a dog?



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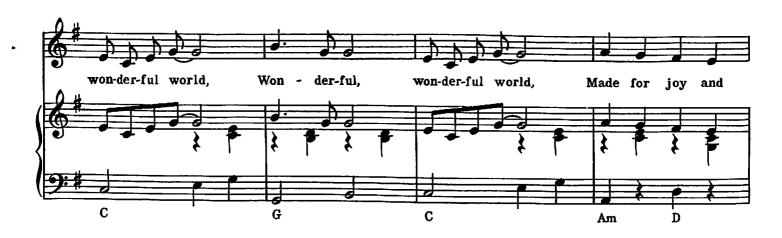


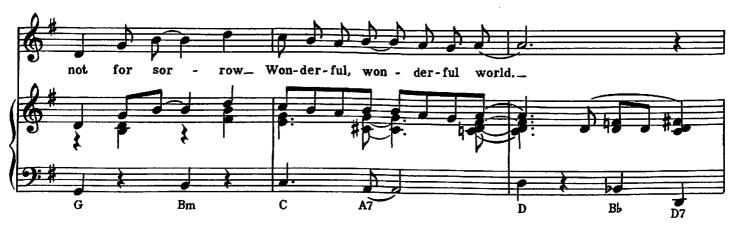




Wonderful world

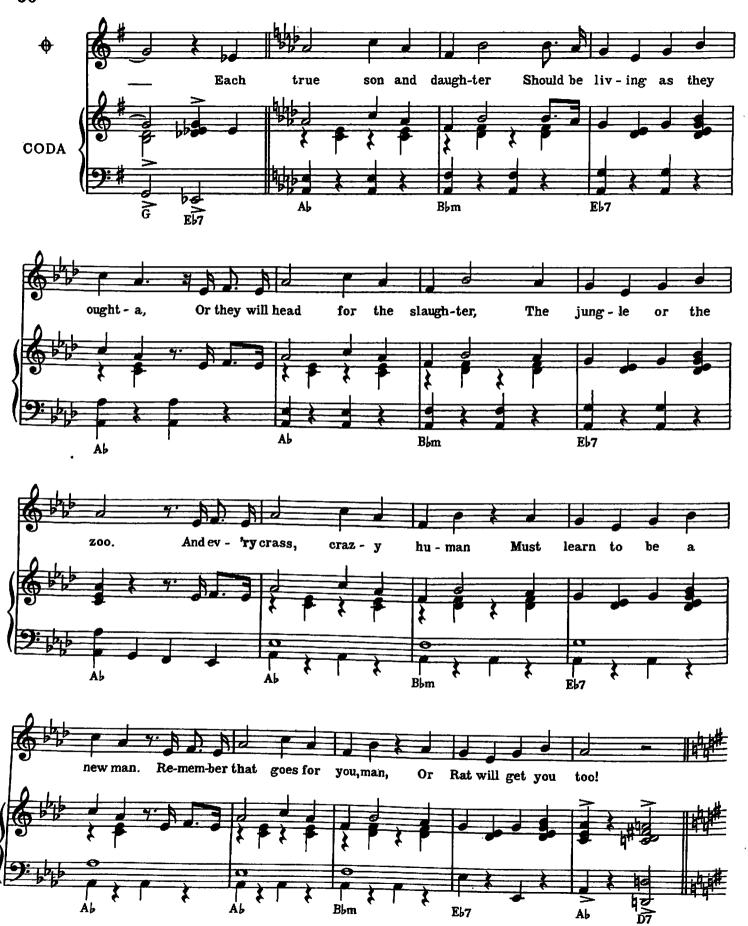






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GEORGE FRASER

PENELOPE THWAITES



PETER HOWARD was an outstanding Englishman. He achieved distinction in many fields: as a sportsman who captained England at Rugby football and broke the Olympic bobsleigh record, as a political journalist, as an author and playwright, as a farmer who loved his Suffolk farm, and as the friend and counsellor of statesmen and ordinary men everywhere.

Peter Howard had a great love of children, his own three and children the world over. He longed to give them the best in life, and show them how to tackle the troubled and divided world they were growing up in. One result was his pantomime *Give a Dog a Bone*, which he wrote for the Westminster Theatre, and which has gone to the children of the world through the brilliant colour film, directed by Henry Cass.

Fourteen of Peter Howard's plays and musicals have been produced across the world and have been translated into many languages. His books sold more than four million copies. Millions of people saw and heard him on television.

Of his plays he once wrote, "I want to see the theatre once more play its part in restoring honour to homes, unity between colours and classes, and to all men faith in God."

When he died, one of Britain's leaders said of him: "He was determined that goodness should not perish from the earth, that light should conquer darkness."



GEORGE FRASER was a Scot from Edinburgh. He was a musician, and a composer of genius. He wrote more than a thousand songs, with his inimitable, captivating melodies. He was a singer himself, an organist and pianist, and a suberb trainer of choirs and choruses. He founded the Mackinac Singers in the United States, and for fifteen years they toured the world and sang in twentyfive languages, including many of George Fraser's own compositions. He devoted much time and care to training the Sing-Out casts in America, where he spent the last months of his life, and the musical It's Our Country, Jack! in Britain. He wrote several musicals with Peter Howard, including The Vanishing Island which travelled 35,000 miles, with its cast of seventy across Asia, the Middle East and Africa, as well as throughout Europe, Britain and the United States.

He was also an accomplished film director, and many remember him for Youth Marches On, El Condor and Voice of the Hurricane.

But above all he was an inspired writer of songs—songs for people, for places, for occasions—songs for the building of a new world: "Bridgebuilders", "Mackinac", "Voices of Westminster"—all, as one noted composer remarked, "with never a dull bar".



PENELOPE THWAITES, who arranged the music, is a pianist from Melbourne, Australia. In 1965 she graduated first in the final examination for Bachelor of Music at Melbourne University.

The following year she was musical director of *Sing-Out Australia* which toured India for three months at the invitation of Rajmohan Gandhi as part of the programme of Moral Re-Armament. Later she worked with the Indian musical *India Arise* both in India and in Europe.

For the last year Miss Thwaites has been in London, firstly as musical director of the revue *It's Our Country*, *Jack!* and later, working for the music programme at the Westminster Theatre Arts Centre.

She says, 'George Fraser's songs are as fresh and stimulating as any I know, and in giving people hope and inspiration they fulfil the true function of music.'

Have you read the book of 'Give a Dog a Bone'?

The story is told by Alan Thornhill, illustrated by Cameron Johnson who designed the original film sets, and can be bought from WESTMINSTER PRODUCTIONS 7s 6d

Have you seen the 16mm film?

If not, it may be hired for showing in schools, clubs or in your own home for £10 10s from SOUND-SERVICES LTD., Kingston Road, Merton Park, London SW 19. Technicolor. Running time: 80 minutes. A copy may be purchased for £250 from MRA PRODUCTIONS, 4 Hays Mews, London, W 1. Also available in 35mm

Have you heard the two E/P records?

They contain 14 of the best-loved songs of the show, and have been made by the cast of the original London production. WP 1 and WP 2. Obtainable from WESTMINSTER PRODUCTIONS 10s. each.

Have you seen the colouring book? the story of Give a dog a Bone

in pictures-for children to colour. Obtainable from: WESTMINSTER PRODUCTIONS, Westminster Theatre, Palace Street, London SW 1 1s each

A 12-page book telling

