

THE NOVELLO BOOK *of*  
**BRITISH FOLKSONGS**

For mixed-voice choirs

*With an introduction by Jeremy Summerly*

*The Novello Book of British Folksongs* provides choirs with an eclectic selection of folksong arrangements, including familiar and lesser-known titles from across the British Isles. There are arrangements from composers such as Ralph Vaughan Williams, Gustav Holst, George Dyson, Rutland Boughton, Harold Darke, Betty Roe, Henry Balfour Gardiner, Paul Mealer and Grayston Ives. Also included are a number of new arrangements, many written specially for this collection.

The volume offers works which are variously beautiful, touching, funny, exciting or dramatic – as diverse as the landscapes and occasions that inspired them. Some, such as *My sweetheart's like Venus* by Gustav Holst, *Yarmouth Town* by Ian Assersohn and *Bonny at Morn* by Jeremy Summerly, dress their beautiful melodies lightly. Others, such as *There were three ravens* by Henry Balfour Gardiner, *A-hunting We Will Go* by John Creed and *Dashing Away with the Smoothing Iron* by Keith Roberts, give richer treatment to the folk tunes.

Together these thirty-four arrangements can provide a fine concert programme. Choirs of all types and abilities will enjoy dipping in to the collection; whether it is to find an exciting encore, a competition piece, or to discover a new folksong arrangement in this sumptuous stream of musical repertoire.

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