

## Saying goodbye

By Trevor Johnson

There's lots of ways to say "Goodbye"

When it's time ter go  
See thee our kid, Tara a bit  
Is language we all know

I must love un leave yer  
Keep aert oss road now  
Some think they'me Italian's  
Dow say goodbye say chow

Folk say, toodlepip un adios  
Some give yer a peck  
Or old fashioned hand shake  
Then hug you round yer neck

People say see you again  
On some other day  
So tatty bye for now  
I'll be on my way

I Dow like saying goodbye  
To people that I know  
I think it's a kind of sad word  
I'd rather say "Hello"

# BLACK COUNTRY BALLADS

MY MATE'S DRINKIN' BRAKE FLUID.  
WHEN I SED ET WAS DANGEROUS  
'E SED THAT 'E COULD STOP EASY!



## Noah's chainmakers of Netherton

By Michael Curran

It wor wae wot sunk the Titanic  
Wae mayd sure the true links was bent  
Nah, it was a bloke from up north  
naermed Smith  
An ee was from Stoke on Trent

Wa'yn got up airy  
An we bate the metal all day  
George Roper got is 'and smashed in  
But the bosses jest docked half day's pay

Jimmy Jones was a gamberling mon  
An at snap time eed play three card brag  
If another bloke's card swoiped 'is game  
out  
Y'ould soon see is faerce sag

Maen come up from Owd Hill an  
Stourbridge  
An the Lost City too  
They sweated and waerked and they  
grafted  
Roight till the knock-off whistle blew

From th'owd Swan Inn our beer  
carying bloke  
Was Jimmy Dunn by naeme  
But of any ale got spilt some mongrel  
blokes  
Would give poor jim the blame

From Netherton, Bilston  
And Tippun as well  
Wae could cast yo ironmongery  
Or a cathedral bell

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## Holidays

by Janet Oakey

Folk are queuing,  
families restless  
Airports rammed,  
seems so senseless!

Jetting away to foreign lands  
For big blue skies  
and heaps of sand!

And here we are with our  
very own features  
Coastal paths, cliffs, coves  
and no man-made beaches.  
Throw the luggage in the car  
Head to the seaside,  
then a cool drink in the bar.

We know motorways  
can be a pain  
And we may experience  
the odd spell of rain  
But at the end of the day,  
holidays are for relaxing  
Not to be stressful  
or too taxing.

So let the heatwave  
last until September  
And 2018 will be the hottest  
year to remember.

## Garlic (Allium Sativum)

by David Macklin

With its strong odour and astringent  
taste  
To eat garlic I am in no haste.  
Garlic eaters have garlic oozing from  
their pores  
And if they visit we have to fling open  
windows and doors.  
Then, to return our home to an accept-  
able state,  
When they leave, we have to fumigate.  
As a culinary aid it inflicts abuse  
And should be confined to medical use.  
I am not against the allium family such  
as onion or leek  
And I'm eating a salad with chives as I  
speak.  
Let it be eaten by the French, Arabs and  
Moors  
But restrict it by law, to Europe's south-  
ern shores.  
You will immediately make me critical  
and rude  
So never, ever put garlic into my food.