



My Lady  
Greensleeves  
by Dante  
Gabriel Rossetti



Contemporary  
folk group  
Mumford and  
Sons



## Folk Music

Folk music is a type of music that comes from a country's people and traditions. A piece of folk music should contain all of these parts.

- They usually tell stories or describe everyday life.
- They are played on simple, traditional instruments like guitars, fiddles, or flutes.
- It is passed from one user to the next by word of mouth, rather than by being written down.
- The original composer is often unknown. Instead, the tune and words spread naturally.
- A folk song often exists in several different versions but these versions have a simple **melody**, clear verses that tell a story and with a repeated chorus and **refrain**.
- Folk music is one of the major groups of types of music. It is now often divided into **traditional** folk music, like the song Greensleeves and **contemporary** folk music.



These are the notes that hand bells play on the staff notation.



## Key Work

- Scarborough Fair is a traditional English **ballad**, dating back to at least 1670.
- Traditional ballads are usually by unknown authors, having been passed on orally from one generation to the next.

You will sing Scarborough Fair from memory. To do this, you will need:

- to recognise how **pitch** can be presented in informal musical notation
- sing **rhythmic** patterns in contrasting tempo, keeping to the pulse

You will perform Scarborough Fair's **melody** and **harmony** on hand bells. To do this, you will be playing together in the class's **ensemble** of singing and instrument playing.

## Key Skills

Below is the first line of Scarborough Fair. The coloured circles over the top of the musical notation show the colour of the handbell that plays each of these notes.



Are you going to Scarborough Fair?

## Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
<b>ballad</b>	a song narrating a story in short verses.
<b>pitch</b>	how high or low the sound you hear
<b>ensemble</b>	groups of people who perform at the same time
<b>rhythm</b>	the recurrence of notes and rests (silences) in time. When a series of notes and rests repeats, it forms a rhythmic pattern
<b>melody</b>	a pleasing combination of pitch and rhythm
<b>refrain</b>	the line or lines that are repeated not the chorus
<b>harmony</b>	the sound of two or more notes heard simultaneously
<b>traditional</b>	Music which uses non-electric instruments.
<b>contemporary</b>	Music which is happening now and uses modern instruments

These are hand bells. The different colours indicate the different notes that they play.

