

Tenor

*Commissioned by **Away From The Western Front**  
with funding from the **Heritage Lottery Fund***

# "No Parades"

Lyrics & music by Chris Hoban

*For voice and brass band  
with optional SATB choir (see separate vocal score)*

*'No Parades' was created as part of the 'Away from the Western Front' project (2017-19).  
This was set up to highlight the global reach of the First World War, which did not just take place in the trenches  
of France and Flanders, and led to massive changes across the world.*

*For more information, see <https://awayfromthewesternfront.org/>. 'Away from the Western Front'  
is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (number 1167582).*

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**Away from the  
Western Front**



N.B. In the 5 verse version, the singer must do the following:

- Omit Verse 2, replacing it with V 3

- Replace V 3 with V 4

- Replace V 4 with V 5

- Replace V 5 with V 6, jumping from letter C to letter E.

The lyrics from the choruses may be sung in any order so as to suit the performance.

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# No Parades

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2

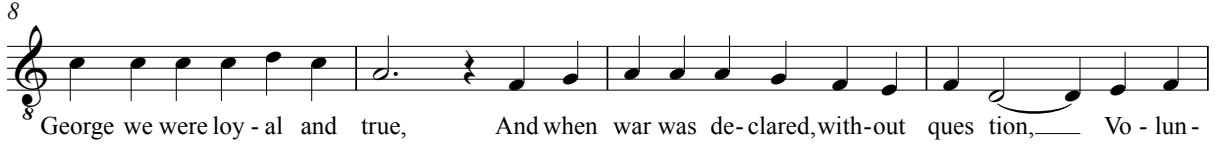
Liltingly, not too fast  $\text{♩} = 58$

5



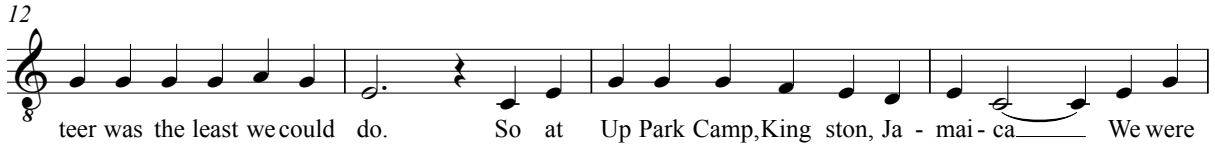
1. We were raised up as sons of the em pire, To King

8




George we were loy - al and true, And when war was de - clared, with - out ques tion, Vo - lun -

12



teer was the least we could do. So at Up Park Camp, King ston, Ja - mai - ca We were

16



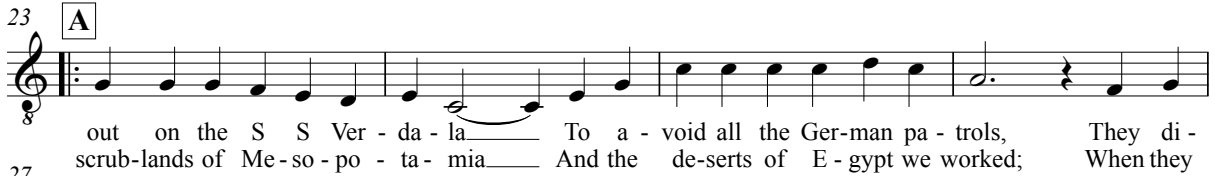
schooled in the tools of our trade, And we sang all our songs of old

19



Eng land And we dreamed of our wel - come pa - rades. 2. Head - ing

23 **A**



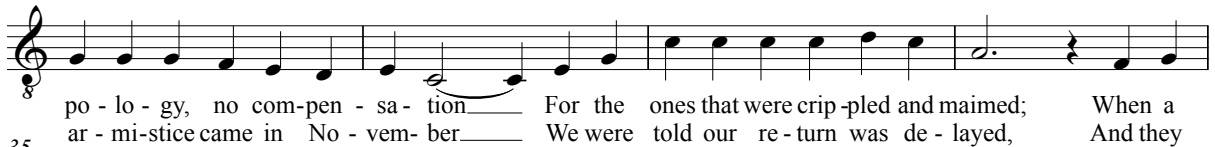
out on the S S Ver - da - la To a - void all the Ger - man pa - trols, They di - scrub - lands of Me - so - po - ta - mia And the de - serts of E - gypt we worked; When they

27



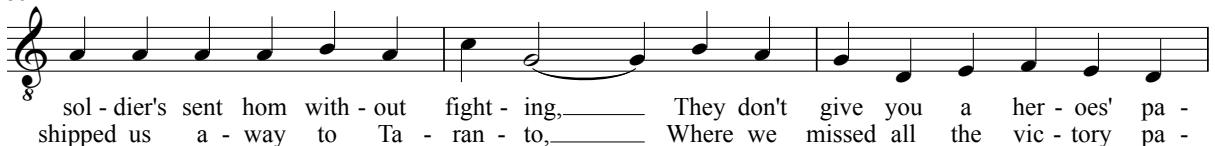
ver - ted us to No - va Sco - tia Wear - ing on - ly our thin sum - mer clothes. No a - gave us a chance for some fight - ing, We de - feat - ed the Hun and the Turk. But when

31



po - lo - gy, no com - pen - sa - tion For the ones that were crip - pled and maimed; When a ar - mi - stice came in No - vem - ber We were told our re - turn was de - layed, And they

35



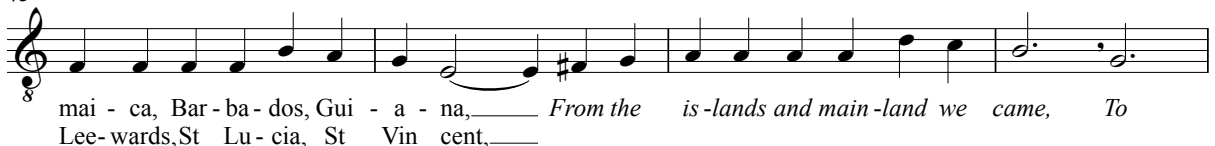
sol - dier's sent hom with - out fight - ing, They don't give you a her - oes' pa - shipped us a - way to Ta - ran - to, Where we missed all the vic - tory pa -

38 *poco ten.* **B** *a tempo*



rade. No pa - rades for us, boys, The West Ind - ian will have no pa rades, From Ja - rades. From the

43



mai - ca, Bar - ba - dos, Gui - a - na, From the is - lands and main - land we came, To Lee - wards, St Lu - cia, St Vin cent,

47  
  
 fight, and to show our al - le - giance\_\_ But re - turned to our home - lands in shame; While for

51  
  
 some there'll be ho - nour and glo - ry, \_\_\_\_ The West In - dian will have no pa - rades.


In 5 Verse (shortened) version,  
 2ND TIME go to letter E

55 **C**  
  
 3. How we want - ed to prove as a sold - ier \_\_\_\_ That the black man's as good as the  
 59 5. We a - wait - ed de - mo - bi - li - sa - tion \_\_\_\_ All that win - ter of nine - teen eigh -

white; If an in - fan - try - man has no ri - fle, \_\_\_\_ Well then, how in the hell can he  
 63 teen, While we toiled in the grime of Ta - ran - to \_\_\_\_ Load - ing am - mo and clean - ing la -

fight? They as - signed us in "La - bour Bat - ta lions" \_\_\_\_ With a mop and a buck - et and  
 67 trines. When they treat - ed the whites to a pay rise, \_\_\_\_ It was like some - one lobbed a gre -

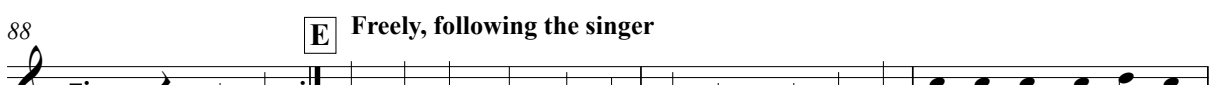
spade, Far a - way from the trench - es and fight ing, \_\_\_\_ Far a - way from the march - ing pa -  
 nade; All our years of re - sent - ment ex - plo - ded, \_\_\_\_ Saying, to hell with their rules and pa -

71 **D**  
  
 rades. No pa - rades \_\_\_\_ for us, boys, \_\_\_\_ The West Ind - ian will have no pa - rades, The Ba -  
 76 rades! Out of

ha - mas, Hon - dur - as, Gre - na - da, \_\_\_\_ From the is - lands and main - land we came, To  
 80 Tri - ni - dad and from To - ba - go, \_\_\_\_

fight, and to show our al - le - giance\_\_ But re - turned to our home - lands in shame; While for

84  
  
 some there'll be ho - nour and glo - ry, \_\_\_\_ The West In - dian will have no pa - rades.

88 **E** Freely, following the singer  
  
 4. In the grace, and dis - armed, and dis - band ed \_\_\_\_ For our mu - ti - nous ways we were  
 6. In dis -

Tenor


4

92



8 spurned; But through hard ship and hu - mi - li - a - tion — A po - li - ti - cised sol - dier re -

96



8 turned. Some were pu - nished, or fomed in - to ex - ile, — Oh, but ma - ny a ve - te - ran

100 **a tempo**



8 stayed, And we led them to - wards in - de - pen - dence, — We old sol - diers, who had no pa -

104 **tenuto**, **F** **a tempo**



8 rades. No pa - rades — for us, boys, — The West Ind - ian will have no pa - rades, From all

109



8 o - ver the wide Ca - rib - be - an, — From the is - lands and main - land we came, To

113



8 fight, and to show our al - le - giance — But re - turned to our home - lands in shame; While for

117 **allargando**



8 some there'll be ho - nour and glo - ry, — The West In - dian will have no pa -

120 **Fine**



8 rades.