

# The Brides of Enderby

Words and Music: Nigel Harbron

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, and chords are indicated above the staff. The lyrics are: "The af - ter-noon was fine and dry, As all a - round their busi-ness went. There were no signs of things to come, Al - though the Lord knew what he'd sent. Ring out! Ring out! The Brides of End - er - by, Or ve - ry soon our bod - ies will be drowned in the sea."

The afternoon was fine and dry,  
As all around their business went.  
There were no signs of things to come,  
Although the Lord knew what he'd sent.

*Ch: Ring out! Ring out! The Brides of Enderby,  
Or very soon our bodies will be drowned in the sea.*

As evening fell and lights were lit,  
A wall of water hit the town.  
The Spring tide rose as ne'er before  
And soon the sea was all around.

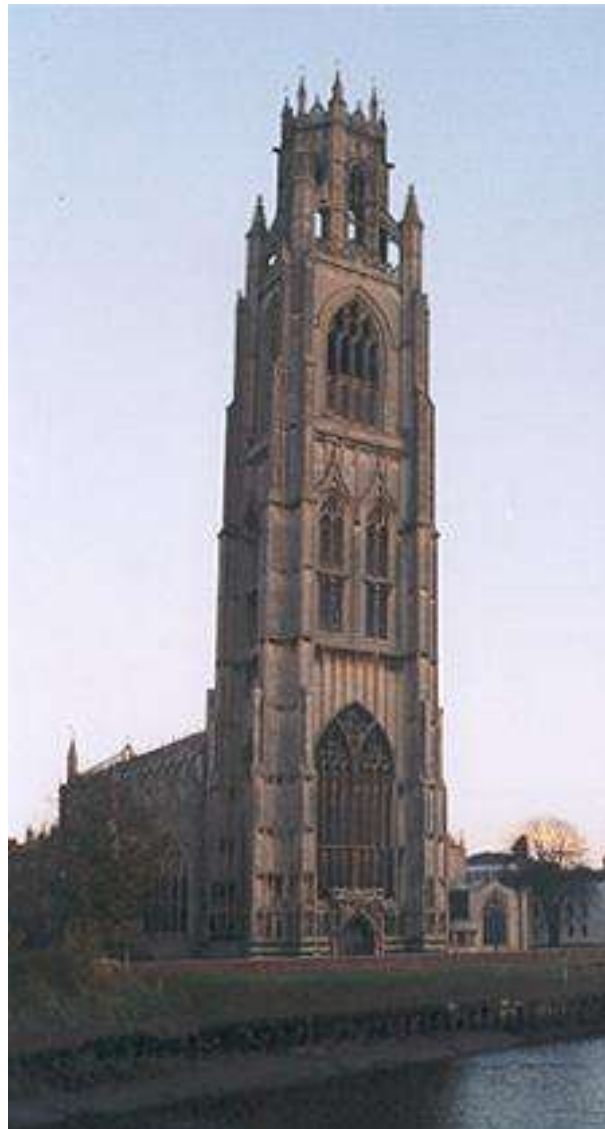
Upon the roof we sat that night  
As in the streets the water flowed.  
We heard some voices calling out  
As through the town a few boats rowed.

Though we were safe, we knew not where  
Some friends and family were that night.  
As dawn chased darkness from the sky  
We looked down on a pitiful sight.

It was four days before the flood  
Returned from where that it had come.  
While people struggled through the streets  
Their faces blank, their senses numb.

And now we all do ask ourselves  
Why we did bear this dreadful fate.  
We all unto the Stump did go  
Our Lord in Heaven to placate.

Now if I live a hundred years  
I'll not forget the things I saw.  
And every time I hear church bells  
I'll turn my eyes unto the shore.



*This song was inspired by the poem High Tide Off the Coast of Lincolnshire 1571 by Jean Ingelow (1820 - 1897). 'The Stump' is the local name for the astonishing tower of the parish church in Boston. It is 272' high, and sits on about 6' of Fenland clay. We once had a hen called Mavis Enderby!*