



# SEEING DOUBLE

## Gary & Vera Aspey

---

- 1 Seeing Double
- 2 My Good-Looking Man
- 3 Miss Tickle Toby
- 4 The Dowie Dens of Yarrow
- 5 The Cruise of the Calibar
- 6 Hounds and Horn Together
- 7 The Bolinder Boatman
- 8 The Testimony of Patience Kershaw
- 9 July Wakes
- 10 Knocker-Upper Man
- 11 The Price of Coal
- 12 The Coal and Albert Berry



First published by TOPIC 1979  
Produced by Tony Engle  
Recorded at Riverside Studios by Antony David  
Photography by Keith Morris  
Design by Tony Russell

### Seeing Double

A young maiden cleverly outwits the local squire, who cannot understand her attraction towards a man who squints - but eventually discovers it, to his cost.

*(Glossary: skens = squints (or 'the right eye follows the left eye'). Jammie o' Nancy = James the son of Nancy. Nobbut = not only. Noan = not. Ee = eye. Yed = head. A seet o' yor back = your company is not desired.)*

### My Good-Looking Man

Our thanks to John McAllister, who assisted in collecting this song from Mrs Gregson of Preston.

### Miss Tickle Toby

A great character from the Black Country, the late Albert Shaw, gave us this song, which he learned from the singing of his father. It tells what happens when a squire dresses himself up as a young girl and sneaks into Miss Tickle Toby's girls' school.

### The Dowie Dens of Yarrow

A Scottish traditional song which happens to be a great favourite of ours.

### The Cruise of the Calibar

Sung to us by Emma Vickers of Burscough, who was a marvellous lady, loved and respected by all who knew her. Emma would often spend her school holidays with her grandfather, who worked a boat on the Leeds-Liverpool Canal, and from his singing she learned several songs. This is one of them.

### Hounds and Horn Together

When hunting days are over, their memories linger on, and at times we all gather together to recall them and drink a toast to all hunters and hunted.

### The Bolinder Boatman

The Bolinder was the first single-cylinder diesel engine installed in canal boats, which took over the work of the horse. Having had the experience of helping to preserve the *Stour*, a Bolinder-engined boat, and, as on many a cold morning, knowing the effort required to get her to start, we can appreciate the love-hate relationship her old boatmen had with her, their affection and respect, and the interest that her magical sound aroused in all who encountered her along the cut.

### The Testimony of Patience Kershaw

Written by Frank Higgins and based on the testimony of 17-year-old Patience Kershaw to the Royal Commission on Children's Employment in 1842.

### July Wakes

A millworker takes a look at his one yearly holiday, Wakes Week, when he can go walking on Pendle Hill, enjoy the freedom of nature that surrounds him, and drink from streams whenever he is thirsty. For this one week of 'life' he works 51 weeks inside the mill.

### Knocker-Upper Man

Mike Canavan from Manchester wrote this song to commemorate the passing of an era. Once, each morning, workers were awakened by the knocker-upper man, who walked the streets carrying a long pole, with which he tapped on bedroom windows. Sadly, he has been replaced by the alarm clock. Our only question is, who knocked up the knockerupper man?

### The Price of Coal

Who can say? Wives, parents, sons and daughters of every miner who has lost his life for it. They know the price of coal.

### The Coal and Albert Berry

The never-ending battle between coal and man. This song was written by our friend Ted Edwards, who, having had the experience of working down the mine, has captured in his words the hatred felt by man and reflected by the coal.

Digital remaster ©2014 Topic Records Ltd.  
©2014 Topic Records Records Ltd.  
The copyright in this sound recording and digital artwork is owned by Topic Records Ltd.  
All rights reserved.



