

ROUGH DIAMONDS

Alan Reid

IN THE GUID AULD DAYS O' THE LOTHIAN MINES
PLENTY OF COAL PROSPEROUS TIMES
ROARIN' FIRES, A WARMIN' GLOW
BAIRNS PLAYIN' GAMES WI' A BA' ON MINERS' ROW
IN THE GUID AULD DAYS O' THE LOTHIAN MINES

IN THE GUID AULD DAYS YE BEGAN YER SHIFT
A PICK AND SHOVEL AND A HARD DAY'S GRAFT
NAE SUN OR RAIN NOR STARRY NIGHT
IN AN UNDERWORLD OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHT
IN THE GUID AULD DAYS O' THE LOTHIAN MINES
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WHEN WORK WAS DONE AND YE HAD A DROUTH
A STROLL WI' YER MATES ON THE NANCY TEUCH
A PINT OR THREE, A SAUNTER HAME
AND SOON ENOUGH IT WAS TIME TAE RISE AGAIN IN
THE GUID AULD DAYS O' THE LOTHIAN MINES
IN THE GUID AULD DAYS O' THE LOTHIAN MINES,
ROUGH DIAMONDS

YE WORKED AND TOILED WI' YER FELLOW MAN
WI' LOYAL WOMEN CLOSE AT HAND
BONDS WERE STRONG IN PEACE OR STRIFE
AND THE WORLD COULD NEVER COMPREHEND THE LIFE
IN THE GUID AULD DAYS O' THE LOTHIAN MINES
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MA GRANDA WIS A SKINNY LAD WHEN HE WENT DOON THE MINE
HE ENDED WI' A RASPIN' COUGH AND HOASTY KIST LIKE A' THE REST
AN EMPTY SHELL WORN OOT AFORE HIS TIME
ROUGH DIAMONDS, ROUGH DIAMONDS

SMEATON, EMILY AND THE GORE
MOAT AND CLONDYKE ARE NO MORE
SLEEPY TOONS, THE PITS LONG GONE
AN WHO IS PININ' NOW FOR THEIR RETURN
HOW MANY MOURN FOR THE LOTHIAN MINES
HOW MANY YEARN FOR THE LOTHIAN MINES
THE GUID AULD DAYS AND THE LOTHIAN MINES
ROUGH DIAMONDS, ROUGH DIAMONDS

Nancy Teuch = a local leisure pathway - *hoasty kist* = wheezy chest - *Drouth* = thirst