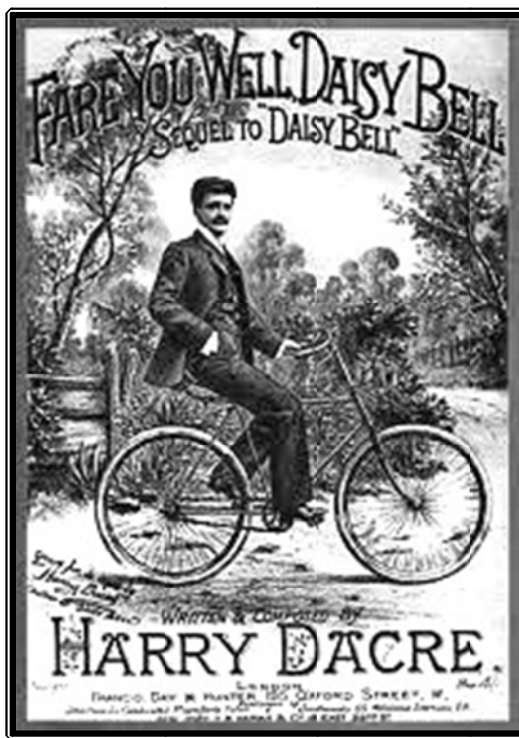# DAISY BELL

Harry Dacre; 1892

This is a two-part arrangement of the popular love song, "*Daisy Bell*", written in the late 19th century. It is still enjoyed today, by adults and children alike. In the late 1880's, English songwriter Harry Dacre came to the United States for a visit. He brought his bicycle, not knowing he would be charged a duty fee. Harry complained about the duty fee to a fellow songwriter and good friend, William Jerome, who joked that he should be thankful that it was not a "bicycle built for two", for which he would have had to pay double duty.

The phrase "Bicycle Built for Two" stuck with Harry, and a few years later, he included it in the song, "*Daisy Bell*", and even gave it the subtitle of "*Bicycle Built for Two*". The song soon became popular in London music halls, and, eventually, migrated back to the United States, where it grew in popularity. The song was published in a number of children's songbooks used in most public schools from the 1930's on.

In 1961, the IBM 7094 became the first computer to sing, singing the song, "Daisy Bell". Vocals were programmed by John Kelly and Carol Lochbaum and the accompaniment was programmed by Max Mathews. This performance was the inspiration for the famous scene in the 1968 film "2001: A Space Odyssey" in which the HAL 9000 computer sings the song as it is deactivated.

~Tull