

In Loving Memory

He took us to the seaside
Bought us fish & chips
Gave us bags with sweets in
Taught us knock out whist
He was a granddad
I was a child

I must have been about ten
Curled up on the floor
Listening to his story
Learning about the war
All of my presents
Left for a while

Enlisted at the town hall
Nineteen-twenty-eight
Signed up for the TA's
Thought he'd joined a gym
Service started at home
Then to the East

India and Burma
Palestine as well
Those days were the better days
A chance to see the world
Learnt to fire a gun
kept his boots greased

In loving memory

Then war was declared
In nineteen-thirty-nine
And granddad was soon rushed
Out to the front-line
We've seen it on the TV
He with his eyes

He saw his captain shot
Standing to his right
Something white was raised
And so Dunkirk to The Reich
German POW
Forty to forty-five

Whilst he was in the camp
He had two left shoes
Played cards with mates
Did what he had to do
Thank Christ for the parcels
Kept him in food

And how lucky we are these days
To be so young and free
When granddad was my age
What did he see
My father asked him
What of the Jews