

## THAMES GETAWAY IDYLL

When we came 'ere from the city to live in Kent for good  
All our friends said we had moved out to the sticks.  
But the 'ouses are quite pretty, all neatly clad in wood,  
And some of them are even made of bricks.  
We've got several miles of country – well it's not exactly ours,  
But it's ours to look at when we get the chance,  
And we're near the Dartford Crossing with its lofty gleaming towers  
And we're 'andy for an 'oliday in France.  
Oh it really is a very pretty garden and our decking is the smartest you  
have seen  
And from up here on the Downs you could see the Medway Towns  
If it wasn't for the 'ouses in between.

Now the wildlife's a treat – there are 'orses down the way  
And there's mice and pigeons, cats and dogs and such,  
But any time we want to we can watch the rabbits play –  
All we 'ave to do is peer inside the 'utch.  
And our little pond looks lovely with a 'eron standing tall –  
People wonder why it never flies away,  
And we've 'ad to buy some goldfish ever since we used 'em all  
On the barbecue we 'ad the other day.  
Oh it really is a very pretty garden with little gnomes all floodlit red and  
green  
And when the weather's clear the coast would look quite near  
If it wasn't for the 'ouses in between.

Now our food is of the freshest and there's plenty of it 'ere:  
We get cabbages and carrots by the load.  
And there's apples, pears and oranges and strawberries all the year  
'Cause the supermarket's only down the road.  
We like a bit of colour and our flowerbed's quite a show –  
There's so many flowers you'll never see a weed  
And we change 'em all around as the seasons come and go  
Although being made of plastic there's no need.

Oh it really is a very pretty garden and with Astro-turf the lawn is always green

And by squinting to the norf you could see Canary Wharf

If it wasn't for the 'ouses I between ...

And if you look really 'ard you could even see the Shard

If it wasn't for the 'ouses in between.

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*Adapted from and sung to the tune of the old music hall song written by Bateman/LeBrun and first done by Gus Ellen in 1899. "Plus ca change!"*