

NEW YEAR'S LESSONS

Auld Lang Syne
by - Robert Burns
(An 18th Century Scottish Poet)

So, here it is December 24th and I have hardly anything for the January Bulletin. I start thinking about the New Year and starting off fresh etc. I ask Donnie about this song "Auld Lang Syne" and just what does it mean. Well, we couldn't even come up with the correct title or spelling. And since we like to learn something new everyday we thought this would be a good thing to check into. So, here we go...

-Chorus-
For auld syne, my dear,
(Old long ago)
For auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to min'? (What
does that mean?)
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And days o' land syne?

We twa hae run about the braes,
(hillsides)
And pou'd the gowans fine;
(pulled/daisies)

But we've wander'd mony a weary
foot (many),
Sin auld lang syne.

We twa hae paidl't i' the burn,
(waded/stream)
Frae morning sun till dine,
(noon/dinner-time)
But seas between us braid hae
roar'd (broad)
Sin auld lang syne.

And there's a hand, my trusty fiere
(friend),
And gie's (give us) a hand o' thine,
And we'll tak a right guid willie-
waught, (goodwill drink)
For auld lang syne.

And surely ye'll be your ping-stowp,
(pay for)
And surely I'll be by mine;
and we'll tak a cup o' kindness yet
For auld lang syne.
(Old long ago)

(My Interpretation)
It sounds to me like a long time ago
some good friends took kindly to
each other and didn't want to forget
one another. So, they got together
and ran around the hillsides pulling
up daisies (I thought this was
something you did after you left this

world) for many hours.
Then they paddled in their boats
down the stream and waded a little
too. (Must have been summer time).
They did this until noon or dinner
time. (Must have gotten hungry from
all that running about the hillsides).
Then they all got together and had a
goodwill drink (I'm sure it was
something like soda, since they had
to row their boats home).
And, they all paid for their own so
not to be a burden on their friend
and carry no ill feelings for a long
time.

(It's nice to finally understand what
this song means after singing it all
these years....Now, how do you
pronounce the title again?)

