

Belonging / Identity

CELEBRATE THE BUSH AND CITIES

Tune: BROOKSIDE

Melody: William L. (Bill) Wallace

Harmony: Graham Hollobon

1. Celebrate the bush and cities,
Honour people and the land,
Weave their many diverse cultures
Till they form one golden strand.
Let the people bring together
All their many cultured ways
Finding deepest thoughts and feelings
Resonate in songs of praise.
2. Think of how the fearless migrants
Came in waka, ship or plane.
Each would claim this place as homeland,
Space they called their own domain.
Honour all who made the journey
Chasing dreams that surged ahead;
Celebrate each pioneer spirit
Whether living or long dead.
3. Let us reverence plants and creatures,
Birds and fish of sea and stream,
Viewing bush as sacred temple,
Holding air in high esteem.
Then our children will inherit
More than family wills can bring;
They will share the world of Nature,
Drinking from life's sacred spring.

Alternative Tune: ABBOT'S LEIGH (WOV 93)

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