

Scouse Sonnet - Number 9 - 1940's Nostalgia

Penny Returns

Author & Copyright - John McEwan - The Liver Bard

By way of change, on our School Holidays, we went for Picnics in the Park.
Took a few Jam Butties, a bottle of Tap Water; and arrived Home after Dark.
We caught a Bus or Tram to start the day, our mystery trip going Anywhere.
Then stared quietly out an Upstairs Window, trying hard to dodge the Fare.
A 'Clippy' or 'Conductor' punched our Tickets, they gave us Good Advice,
On other Trips and Sights worth seeing, which was Considerate and Nice.
The Older Children were in charge; and from them, the Young would learn.
To keep their Eyes wide open, on the look out, for an unused 'Penny Return'.
These were Childrens' Transport Tickets, issued by Liverpool Corporation.
For a Child, it meant a Day's 'Unlimited Travel', to almost any Destination.
Crosby Beach, Calderstones, the Cast Iron Shore, all places we would call.
Though we usually came Home shattered, we always seemed to 'Have a Ball'.
I once jumped off a moving Tram, my short legs going 'Sixty to the Dozen'.
To prevent me falling over, which brought Tears of Laughter to my Cousin.