

Starting a Tradition

By Jim Saville

Traditions are like a tree.
They begin with a tiny seed of thought –
Just like an acorn.
 But they're not yet a tradition.

If conditions are right the tradition survives.
If not it withers and dies.
Like an acorn without nourishment –
 It can't become a tradition.

If people think about that seed of thought,
And remember it year by year.
It begins like a sapling to grow.
 But it is not yet a tradition.

If that thought and care continues –
Like a sapling the seed of thought strengthens.
It grows and has its own life.
 It is becoming a tradition.

After some undefined interval it is accepted.
Like an acorn becoming a mighty oak –
It is always there.
 It has become a tradition.

Some traditions alter thru the years.
Things are added things are removed.
Yet if the original seed of thought is maintained –
 It stays a tradition

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Organising a Zoom Carol Concert this Christmas (to replace a live one I've been attending for many years) I got to thinking how traditional events and celebrations get started. ©