

Both Eric and his publisher would like you to have access to the lyrics of his songs for your own enjoyment but, should you wish to reproduce copies for any purpose, you should first seek permission from the Publisher at the following address: -
Larrikin Music Pty Limited - 4/30-32 Carrington Street, - Sydney, NSW, - Australia, 2000

WELCOME HOME

When the boys came home, Annie cried and Annie cheered
She'd been on her own for a long and lonely year
Living on his letters from far-away Vietnam
And dreading an official telegram
So she was waiting at the station when his train came rolling in
She ached with the anticipation of holding him again
And suddenly he was standing there in his crumpled uniform
In a heartbeat she was in his arms

Welcome home boys, welcome home
Don't you know you've been gone too long
Did you wonder, over there
When you were tired, when you were scared
If your country really cared
Welcome home

When a Nation goes to war, everyone's a casualty
Some are maimed and scarred, but most have wounds you cannot see
So in place of the man that she had known Annie found instead
A sick and troubled stranger in her bed
But she was stubborn, she was loving, so she stayed all through the years
The hard times and the drinking, the nightmares and the tears
For where hate is muddy quicksand, love is tempered steel
Annie waited for his wounds to heal

Welcome home boys, welcome home
Don't you know that you've been gone too long
We're just so glad that you survived
It's only you that wonders why
You lived when your mates died
Welcome home

So on a sunny Sydney morning I heard old war drums beat
And watched the boys come marching down the city street
To claim the place in a Nation's heart that their blood and pain had earned
And a Nation rejoiced in their return
If that day helped to heal some wounds is a matter of debate
For some it had come none too soon, for others far too late
But I found myself hoping as the boys went marching past
That for them the war was over – at last

Welcome home boys, welcome home
Don't you know you've been gone too long
What you went through in Vietnam we can't begin to understand
But to each and every man, welcome home

Welcome home boys, welcome home
Don't you know you've been gone too long
May the years bring you release
As the memories decrease
May you find some kind of peace
Welcome home.