MUSIC

The Wellerman – a sea shanty

Over the next few weeks we are going to be learning and arranging our own version of the sea shanty that has gone viral over the past month.

Voyage 1

We will learn the song and more advanced singers can add the harmony part during the chorus.

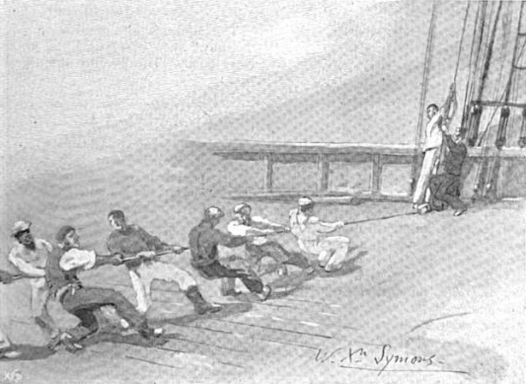
Voyage 2

We will learn more about the history and purpose of sea shanties and start to develop own arrangements using body percussion/ homemade sounds/ musical instruments or computer software. More advanced musicians will be able to learn a part on their instrument.

Voyage 3

We will consider why this sea shanty has become so popular in 2021 and why singing is good for our health!

Our main focus will be rehearsing and refining our own arrangements and getting them ready to perform and record!



The Wellerman

There once was a ship that put to sea  
And the name of that ship was the Billy o' Tea  
The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down  
Blow, me bully boys, blow

*Soon may the Wellerman come  
To bring us sugar and tea and rum  
One day, when the tonguing is done  
We'll take our leave and go.*

She had not been two weeks from shore  
When down on her a right whale bore  
The captain called all hands and swore  
He'd take that whale in tow

*Soon may the Wellerman come*

Before the boat had hit the water  
The whale's tail came up and caught her  
All hands to the side, harpooned and fought her  
When she dived down low

*Soon may the Wellerman come*

No line was cut, no whale was freed  
And the captain's mind was not on greed  
But he belonged to the Whaleman's creed  
She took that ship in tow

*Soon may the Wellerman come*

For forty days or even more   
The line went slack then tight once more  
All boats were lost, there were only four  
And still that whale did go

*Soon may the Wellerman come*

As far as I've heard, the fight's still on  
The line's not cut, and the whale's not gone  
The Wellerman makes his regular call  
To encourage the captain, crew and all

*Soon may the Wellerman come*

(x2)