

# Wellerman (Soon may the Wellerman come)

Aus Neuseeland stammendes Walfängerlied und Shanty, das zwischen 1860 und 1870 entstand

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Wellerman'. It consists of five staves of music in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). Above the first staff are six guitar chord diagrams: Dm (x x 0 2 3 3), Gm (3 2 0 3 3 3), A (x 0 2 2 3 3), A7 (x 0 2 2 3 3), Bb (x 2 2 3 3 3), and F (2 2 3 3 3 3). The lyrics are: 'There once was a ship that put to sea, the name of that ship was the Bil-ly o' Tea. The winds blew hard, her bow dipped down. O blow, my bul-ly boys, blow! Soon may the Wel-ler-man come to bring us su-gar and tea and rum. One day, when the tongu-in' 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. -Refrain

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 below. - Refrain

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

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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. - Refrain

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! - Refrain 2x