

Wellerman

Traditional

♩ = 150

Verse

1. There once was a ship that put to sea, the
2. She had not been two weeks from shore when

name of the ship was the Billy of Tea. The winds blew up, her
 down on her a right whale bore. The Cap - tain called all

bow dipped down, oh blow, me bully boys blow.
 hands and swore he'd take that whale in tow!

Chorus

Soon may the wellerman come to bring us sugar and tea and rum.

One day when the tonguin' is done we'll take our leave and go.

3. 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.
4. No line was cut, no whale was freed, the captain's mind was not of greed.
 And he belonged to the whaleman's creed, she took the ship in tow.
5. For 40 days or even more the line went slack, then tight once more.
 All boats were lost, there were only four, but still that whale did go.
6. 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!