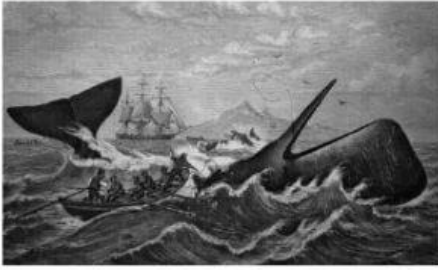


## Wellerman Song – Sea Shanty



Captain's	forty	regular	winds
water	once	whale	done

There \_\_\_\_\_ was a ship that put to sea  
The name of the ship was the Billy of Tea  
The \_\_\_\_\_ blew up, her bow dipped down  
O blow, my bully boys, blow

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

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

Soon may .....

Before the boat had hit the \_\_\_\_\_  
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 .....

No line was cut, no whale was freed  
The \_\_\_\_\_ mind was not of greed  
And he belonged to the whaleman's creed  
She took that ship in tow

Soon .....

For \_\_\_\_\_ 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

Soon ....

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 \_\_\_\_\_ call  
To encourage the Captain, crew, and all

Soon ...

Soon ....

**Note:** "Soon May the Wellerman Come", also known as "Wellerman" is a well-known whaling song. The song's lyrics describe a whaling ship called the "Billy o' Tea" and its hunt for a right whale. The song describes how the ship's crew hope for a "wellerman" (an employee of the Weller brothers, who owned ships that brought provisions to New Zealand whalers) to arrive and bring them supplies of luxuries, with the chorus stating "soon may the wellerman come, to bring us sugar and tea and rum." The workers at these bay-whaling stations (shore whalers) were not paid wages, they were paid in slops (ready made clothing), spirits and tobacco." "Tonguing" in this context refers to the practice of cutting strips of whale blubber to render into oil.