Wellerman

arr. Lachlain Wylie for Curtin Singers

♩ = 150

System 1 (verse lines, colored):

1.There	once	was	a	ship	that	put	to	sea. The
2.	She'd	not	been	two	weeks	from	shore	when
3.Be –	fore	the	ship	had	hit	the	wa – ter,	The
4.No	line	was	cut	no	whale	was	freed.	The
5.For	for – ty	days	or	e – ven	more	the		
6.As	far	as I've heard	the	fight's	still	on.		The

Hoomm
(Drone)

System (bar 3):

name	of	the ship	was	the	Billy O'	Tea The
down	on	her	a	right	whale	bore. The
wha –	le's	her tail	came	up	and	caught her. All
cap –	tain's	mind	was	not	of	greed, and
line	went	slack	then	tight	once	more. All
line's	not	cut	and the	whale's	not	gone. The

mm

System (bar 5):

winds	blew	up,	her	bow	dipped	down. Oh
cap –	tain	called	all	hands	and	swore, he'd
hands	to	the side,	har –	pooned	and	fought her
he	be –	longed	to the	Whale – man's	creed.	She
boats	were	lost,	there were	on –	ly	four, but
Weller –	man	makes	his	regu –	lar	call, to en

mm

System (bar 7):

blow	my	Billy	boys	blow.
take	that	whale	in	tow.
when	she	dived	down	low.
took	that	ship	in	tow.
still	that	whale	did	go.

6.cou – rage the cap – tain, crew and all.
(No "Huh!")

mm

9

Huh! Soon may the Wel-ler-man come, to bring us su-gar and tea and ru – um.
Da da da da da da da da da da da da da da da - a

Huh! Soon may the Wel-ler-man come, to bring us su-gar and tea and rum.
Da da da da da da da da da da da da da da

Huh! Soon may the Wel-ler-man come to bring us su-gar and tea and rum.
Da da da da da da da da da da da da da da

14

One day when the tongu-ing is done, we'll take our leave and go - wa!
Da da da da da da da da da da da da!

One day when the tongu-ing is done, we'll take our leave and go - wa!
Da da da da da da da da da da da da!

One day when the tongu-ing is done, we'll take our leave and go - wa!
Da da da da da da da da da da da da!

Structure:
- Verse1
- Chorus
- Verse2 (low drone)
- Chorus
- Da Chorus
- Verse3 (both drones)
- Chorus
- Verse4 (both drones)
- Chorus
- Da Chorus
- Verse5 (no drone)
- Chorus
- Verse6 (both drones, alternative ending)
- Chorus x2