

Hearts Of Oak

"Hearts of Oak" is the official march of the Royal Navy of the United Kingdom. The music was composed by Dr William Boyce. The words were written by 18th century English actor David Garrick. "Hearts of Oak" was originally written as an opera. First performed on New Year's Eve 1759 in an early pantomime, "Harlequin's Invasion", at the Garrick Theatre, London.

Come, cheer up, my lads, 'tis to glory we steer.
The prize more than all to an Englishman dear.
To honour we call you, as freemen not slaves,
For who are so free as the sons of the waves.

Chorus

*Hearts of oak are our ships, jolly tars are our men.
We always are ready. Steady boys steady.
We'll fight and we will conquer again and again!*

We ne'er see our foes but we wish them to stay.
They never see us but they wish us away.
If they run, why we follow, and run them ashore.
For if they won't fight us, we cannot do more.

They swear they'll invade us, these terrible foes.
They frighten our women, our children, and beaus.
Should their flat-bottom boats in the darkness get o'er,
Still Britons they'll find to receive them on shore.

{We'll still make them fear, and we'll still make them flee.
And drub them on shore, as we've drubbed them at sea.
Then cheer up my lads, with one heart let us sing.
Our soldiers, our sailors, our statesmen, our King.}

Still Britain shall triumph, her ships plough the sea.
Her standard be Justice, her watchword "be free".
Then cheer up my lads, with one heart let us sing.
Our soldiers, our sailors, our statesmen, our King.