

Heart Of Oak

"Heart of Oak" is the official march of the Royal Navy of the United Kingdom. With music composed by William Boyce and words by 18th century English actor David Garrick. "Heart 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. Roud 31418.

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

*Heart of oak are our ships, jolly tars are our men
We always are ready, steady boys steady
We'll fight and we will conquer aga.....in, 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

Chorus <final 'again' drawn out with max harmony>