

Mingulay Boat Song

By Sir Hugh S. Robertson (1874–1952) in the 1930s. The melody is described in Robertson's Songs of the Isles as a traditional Gaelic tune, probably titled "Lochaber". The song describes fishermen returning to the Hebridean isle of Mingulay where their families wait. Not in Roud.

Chorus

Heel ya ho boys *let her go boys*
Bring her head round into the weather
Heel ya ho boys *let her go boys*
Sailing homeward to Mingulay

What care we though white the Minch is
What care we for the wind and weather
Let her go boys every inch is
Sailing homeward to Mingulay

Chorus

Wives are waiting by the pier head
Or looking seaward from the heather
Pull her round boys then we'll anchor
'Ere the sun sets on Mingulay

Chorus

Ships return now heavy laden
Mothers holding bairns a-crying
They'll return though when the sun sets
They'll return, to Mingulay

Chorus

<solo> They'll return, to Mingulay