

## Bring 'Em Down

1. In Liverpool I was born  
**Bring `em down**  
 And London is me home from home!  
**Bring `em down**

2. Them Rotherhithe girls are mighty fine,  
**Bring `em down**  
 They're never a day behind the time!  
**Bring `em down**

3. It's round Cape Horn we all must go,  
**Bring `em down**  
 Your hands all stiff with the frost and snow  
**Bring `em down**

4. Up the coast to Vallipo,  
**Bring `em down**  
 Northward to Callao,  
**Bring `em down**

5. Them Callao girls I do adore  
**Bring 'em down**  
 They takes it all and asks for more!  
**Bring 'em down**

6. Them Vallipo girls puts on a show,  
**Bring `em down**  
 They wiggle their arse with a roll and go!  
**Bring `em down**

7. It's back home to Liverpool,  
**Bring `em down**  
 To spend me pay like a bloody fool!  
**Bring `em down**

8. Them Liverpool girls I do admire,  
**Bring `em down**  
 They'll set your riggin' all afire!  
**Bring `em down**

9. I'm Liverpool born and bred,  
**Bring `em down**  
 Strong in the arm and thick in the head!  
**Bring `em down**

10. Oh rock and roll me over, boys,  
**Bring `em down**  
 Let's get this damn job over, boys!  
**Bring `em down!**

Hear **Louis Killen** deliver this at  
[https://youtu.be/Q\\_UJi-8mdwo](https://youtu.be/Q_UJi-8mdwo)  
 or buy **Hanging Johnny's** CD **No Other Life**

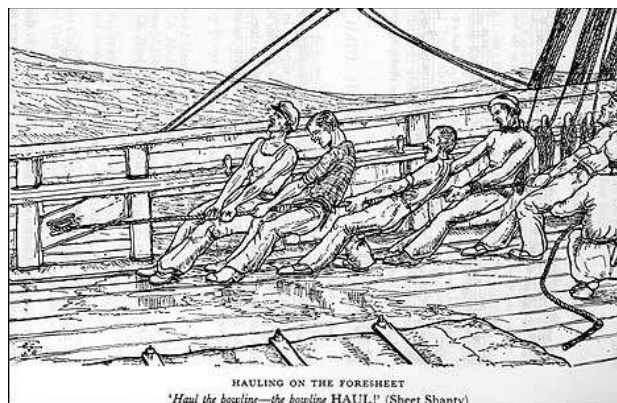


Illustration from **Hugill, Stan, 1994, Shanties from the Seven Seas**  
 "A short pull and a hard one"

### Notes

A shanty used for **heavy hauling**.  
 Also known as a **heavy-haul one-pull shanty**.

A L **Lloyd**, 1962, in *sleeve notes for A Sailor's Garland* by A L (Bert) Lloyd & Ewan MacColl, on the Prestige label, writes:

This tune (a Dorian one) was brought to Liverpool from the West Indies where a variant of it had served as a challenging stick-fight song.

Among the vessels that adopted the tune as a shanty for heavy hauling were those running up the coast of Chile. Old-time sailors, who had a high regard for Valparaiso women, pronounced Chile to rhyme with "versatile". [or smile].

Web site [Exmouth Shanty Men - the original buoy band](#) says

A heavy-haul, one-pull shanty with a triple-stamp refrain. Some of the words refer to ports of Chile and Peru and the memorable girls thereof but that doesn't mean this shanty was limited to the West Coast run.

### Notes on the words

**Bring 'em down** - the sails, probably.

**Callao** - a port in Peru, a good place for guano

**Vallipo** - Valparaiso, a port in Chile

...but that doesn't mean this shanty was limited to the West Coast run.