

## The Dogger Bank

1. Sailing over the Dogger Bank  
Oh, wasn't it a treat?  
The wind a-blowing east nor' east,  
We had to give her sheet.  
You ought to see us running,  
The wind a-blowing free,  
On a passage from the Dogger Bank  
To Great Grimsby.

**So watch her, twig her,  
She's a proper juber-ju.  
Give her the sheet and let her rip,  
We're the boys to pull her through.  
You ought to see us running,  
The wind a-blowing free,  
On a passage from the Dogger Bank  
to Great Grimsby.**

2. Now the captain he's a shangaroosh  
And he loves a drop of good ale.  
The mate's a road-stone inspector,  
He's been seen in many a jail.  
The third hand he's a bush ranger,  
He comes from the African Isle,  
And take a look at the poor old cook,  
It gets the bugger wild.

**So watch her, twig her,  
She's a proper juber-ju.  
Give her the sheet and let her rip,  
We're the boys to pull her through.  
You ought to see us running,  
The wind a-blowing free,  
On a passage from the Dogger Bank  
to Great Grimsby.**

3. So it's watch her, twig her,  
It's down the street she came.  
With high heels and painted toes  
Good Jennie is on the game.  
She is one of them flash girls,  
Can't she cut a shine?  
She can do a double shuffle  
On the Knickerbocker Line.

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On a passage from the Dogger Bank  
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3. Now, we're the boys to make a noise  
When we come home from sea,

We get right drunk,  
we roll on the floor,  
we have a jubilee.  
We get right drunk and full o'  
beer  
We roll all over the floor.  
And when the rent  
it is all spent,  
We'll go to sea for more.



**So watch her, twig her,  
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We're the boys to pull her through.  
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On a passage from the Dogger Bank to  
Great Grimsby.**

[Comic character 398 by [Firkin](#), [openclipart.org](#)]

Sing with **New Scorpion Band** from CD **Folk Songs & Tunes from the British Isles**

also (fuzzy) at <https://youtu.be/sPN3Zoasq5A>

### Notes

**Sam Larner**, 1878-1965, singer and raconteur from Winterton, Norfolk, learned it in Great Yarmouth from a trawler fisherman in **1890**.

**Peter Bellamy** learned it from Sam Larner and wrote for his 1969 LP, *Fair England's Shore*:  
"The Dogger Bank is another of Sam Larner's fishing songs, probably began life in America, came over with the "**Coon Shows**", got into the music-halls and eventually found its way to the fishermen who adapted it (drastically) to their own needs."

Larner sang it for Ewan MacColl & Peggy Seeger in 1958-60; they wrote in [Now Is the Time for Fishing](#):

"Possibly an English parody of the American [Cruise of the Bigler](#) and probably is of music hall origin.

"The reference to the [Knickerbocker Line](#) ... is almost certainly an echo from the popular music-hall song which greeted the inauguration of the Boston street-car service known as [The Knickerbocker Line](#) .

Do have a look at [MainlyNorfolk.info](#)

**Juber-ju** - The Juba Ju, or Juba, is a lively [dance \(Britannica\)](#) of negro slaves, possibly after one of the places or people named Juba. Try searching [YouTube](#)

**Double Shuffle** - also a [dance](#). This song is clearly suggesting the ship can dance on the water!

**Great Grimsby** - proper name for Grimsby - see [history of Great Grimsby](#)

**Shangaroosh** - Shanghai Roosh - a Russian who shanghais people