

# The Sea

This week's topic is The Sea, and here are two very different French musical pieces to get us in the mood for The Sea, or as they say in French, La Mer.

## La Mer

A classic French Jazz song by Charles Trenet, first recorded in the 1940's - and used in the final scene of Mister Bean's Holiday! Enjoy...



<https://youtu.be/Olykn4mBT9U>



## La Mer

By Claude Debussy, a French composer who actually finished this piece of music on the South Coast of England!

<https://youtu.be/Olykn4mBT9U>



## Sea Shanties



Many British Sea Songs were sea shanties which were sung by sailors as they worked on the ships. You can find hundreds of these songs online. Here is Santiana, a shanty in a traditional style from The Longest Johns:

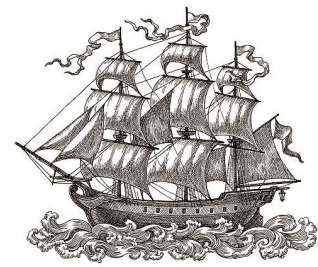
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nD4gLEBGSkE>

Here are three collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams and adapted into a more classical style:

<https://youtu.be/00r8HoWtpxM>

Notice how the music is played only on Woodwind, Brass and Percussion instruments, like in a Military Band, which reflects the fact that many sailors were also fighting men in the Navy.

Did you know that the word "shanty" comes from the French to sing, "chantez"... Well you do now!



## Make an Ocean Drum

You can even make the sound of the waves on the shore at home, with this simple activity.

<https://kinderart.com/art-lessons/multic/make-ocean-drum/>



## Sun, Sea and Song!



Songs and stories about buried treasure, stowaways, sea storms and more!! For younger children.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/music-ks1-sun-sea-song-index/zr4x2sg>

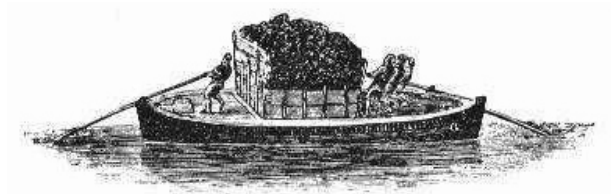
## North East Folk Songs about the Sea

There are lots of songs from Northumberland and the North Sea about fishing, boats and the sea. Here are just three.

### **Dance to Your Daddy**

Also known as 'When the Boat Comes In', this is a song from 200 years ago.

<https://youtu.be/SO9JensOfYU>



### **The Keel Row**

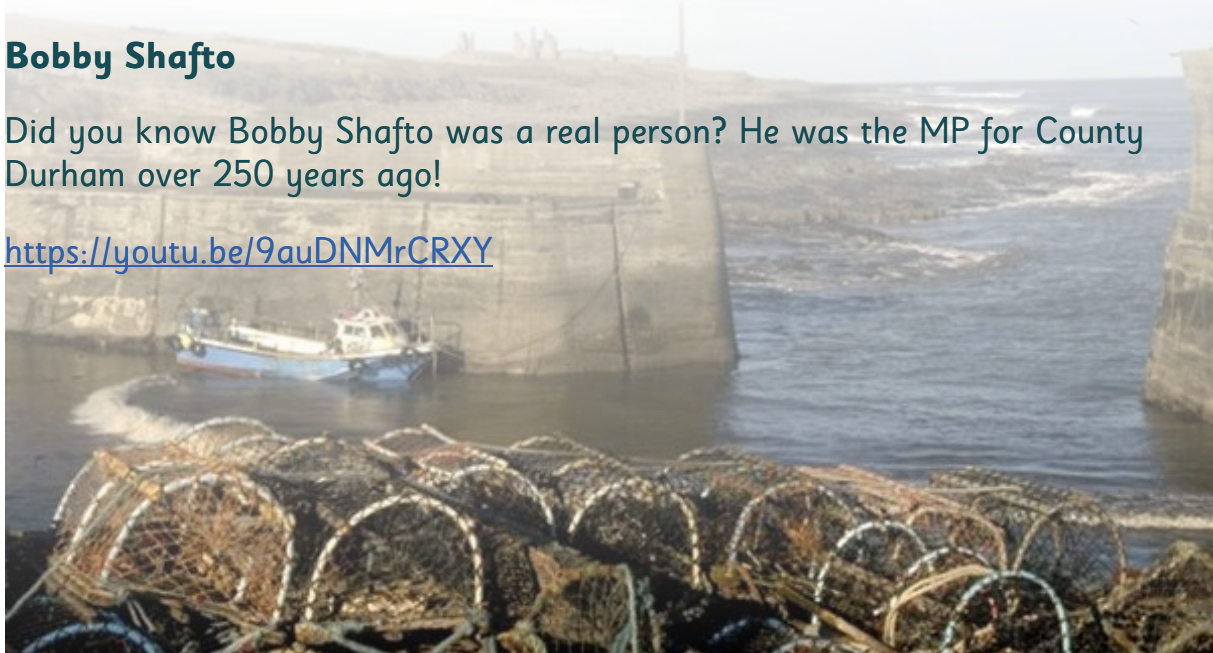
Although there's no vocals on this version, the video is worth watching even just for the beautiful images of Northumberland! Did you know the Northumberland Pipes have been around even longer than the Scottish Bagpipes? By a few hundred years, no less!!

<https://youtu.be/4tFaznuXjPM>

### **Bobby Shafto**

Did you know Bobby Shafto was a real person? He was the MP for County Durham over 250 years ago!

<https://youtu.be/9auDNMrCRXY>



## Newbiggin Family Story Trail



Launched just last week, this collaboration between Unfolding Theatre and local schools and families is inspired by the book **Not Now Bernard**, by David McKee. For a day out by the sea with a difference, follow the map to discover the stories.

<https://www.unfoldingtheatre.co.uk/newbiggin>

Here is Rothbury-born Alexander Armstrong narrating an orchestral version of the book:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skjBUqzFrdU>



## Shanties for Ukulele

Finally, if you have a ukulele, there are sea shanties you can play, depending on your ability!

Here's Drunken Sailor on just two chords Dm and C:

<https://youtu.be/G3JpoN9EZ0c>



Some shanties are really hard to play, but one song we all know, and can play along with is A Sailor went to Sea Sea Sea. Just play the chord C instead of singing the word sea! Simple!!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O93plXkzj8o>

