

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

Singing For Our Lives (We are the Oxford SeaGreen Singers)..... 2

1. Bella ciao..... 4

2. Chartist Anthem..... 4

3. Climate sceptic 5

4. Fight the cuts..... 6

5. La lega 6

6 . Never turning back..... 7

7 . Oh a revolution now 8

8. Singing for our lives 8

9. Siyahamba 8

11. Transition Town Medley . 9

10. Tom Paine's Bones..... 10

12. We will fight on..... **Error!**

Bookmark not defined.

13. Which side are you on.. 12

Extra Misc. songs 12

Rolling Home..... 12

Internationale..... 14

Bonny Besses..... 15

**SeaGreen Singers
(Oxford) NHS Songs**

**Singing For Our Lives
(We are the Oxford
SeaGreen Singers)**

Holly Near, arr: Ian
Stirling

We are the Oxford
SeaGreen Singers
and we are singing,
singing for our lives

2

We are the Oxford
SeaGreen Singers,
and we are singing,
singing for our lives

We are a gentle angry
people,
and we are singing,
singing for our lives
We are a gentle angry
people,
and we are singing,
singing for our lives

We are a justice seeking
people,
and we are singing,
singing for our lives
We are a justice seeking
people,
and we are singing,
singing for our lives

We are a land of many
colours,
and we are singing,
singing for our lives
We are a land of many
colours,
and we are singing,
singing for our lives

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

And strike the iron while
it's hot
[And we'll strike while
the iron is hot.]

Bonny Besses

- Rev Hammer

1. So at five in the
morning with William
Walwyn,
They dragged Honest
John to the Tower.
Once more high treason
was the given reason,
When they dragged
Honest John to the
Tower.
With Thomas Prince and
Richard Overton
They dragged Honest
John to the Tower.
And the Women of the
city rose up in disgust
and pity.
When they dragged
Honest John to the
Tower.

And the streets threw up
this bloody cry.....

Chorus

15

We are the Bonny
Besses in the sea-green
dresses,
And we spit on your
abuse of this power.
And we say “Free Honest
John from the Tower”.

And Parliament said,
“Women go tidy your
beds!”
When they dragged
Honest John to the
Tower.
And Parliament said,
“Some things are above
Women’s heads!”
When they dragged
Honest John to the
Tower.
And the streets threw up
this bloody cry.....

Chorus

Forty Thousand names
wanted to break those
chains,
Of our four friends there
in the Tower

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

1. Bella ciao

Here are some suggested verses from different sources, covering different issues:

a. We are singing for peace and freedom,
O Bella ciao, bella ciao,
bella ciao, ciao, ciao
We are singing for peace and freedom, And we'll not be silenced now.

b. We are singing for education, O Bella ciao.....
We are singing for education, everybody's right to learn.

c. We need to wake up, we need to rise up,
We need to open up our eyes and do it now, now, now,
We need to build a better future and we need to start right now.

4

d. No point in waiting or hesitating,
We must get wise, take no more lies, and do it now, now, now,
We need to build a better future, And we need to start right now.

2 Chartist Anthem

by Ben Boucher©1847

In order to hear the tune, either put some women on it, or transpose the whole song to within a range that sopranos can sing the tune.

A hundred years, a thousand years,
We're marching on the road
The going isn't easy
Yet we've got a heavy load,
We've got a heavy load

The way is blind with blood and sweat,
And death sings in our ears

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

Chorus:
Rolling home, when we go, Rolling home when we go
Rolling, roiling, When we go roiling home.

And the gentry in their fine array do prosper night and morn
While we into the fields must go to plough and sow the corn.
The rich may steal the power, but the glory's ours alone.
When we go rolling home, when we go rolling home.

Chorus
The summer of resentment. The winter of 'despair.
The journey to contentment is set with trap and snare.
Stand true and stand together. Your labour is your own.
When we go rolling home, when we go rolling

13
home.

Chorus

The frost lies on the hedgerows and the icy winds do blow
While we poor weary labourers strive through the driving snow.
Our dreams fly up to glory - up where larks have flown.
When we go rolling home, when we go roiling home.

Chorus
So pass the bottle round and let the toast go free.
Here's a health to every labourer wherever they may be.
Fair wages now and ever. Lets reap what we have sown.
When we go rolling home, when we go roiling home.

Chorus

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

4. Fight the cuts

(to the tune of 'Rock my soul in the bosom of Abraham)
Some voices hold a long sustained note during each verse, to add a bit of interest!

a. Fight the cuts, they mustn't get away with it (x3)
Fight, fight the cuts.

b. Tax the rich and make them pay for it (x3)
Tax, tax the rich.

c. We want change and we're singing today for it (x3)
We, we want change.

5. La lega

a. You say we're only women, But we are not afraid,
For the love of our children, For the love of our children

6

You say we're only women, But we are not afraid,
For the love of our children, Our union will be made Hey!

(Refrain)

Oh lio lio la, e la lega la crescerà
E noi altri socialisti, E noi altri socialisti
Oh lio lio la, e la lega la crescerà
E noi altri socialisti,
Vogliamo la libertà

b. But liberty will not come, Because we're not united
The blacklegs with the bosses, The blacklegs with the bosses,
But liberty will not come, Because we're not united
The blacklegs with the bosses, They must be defeated.

c. You say we're only women, But we are not afraid

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

It was written there in Tom Paine's plan.

Chorus

d. (Bass) Old Tom Paine, there he lies,
Nobody laughs and nobody cries.
Where he's gone or how he fares,
Nobody knows and nobody cares.

Chorus: But I will dance to Tom Paine's bones
Dance to Tom Paine's bones
Dance in the oldest boots I own
To the rhythm of Tom Paine's bones (x2)

12. We will fight on

(to the tune of Amen Siakudumisa/Masiti)
a. Top/echo voice: We'll fight on
We will fight on against the cuts (x2)
We will fight on (x2)

11

We will fight on against the cuts

b Top/echo voice: We won't pay
We will not pay the bankers debts x2
We will not pay x2
We will not pay the bankers debts

c Top/echo voice: The poorest
Why should the poorest foot the bill x2
Why should the poorest x2
Why should the poorest foot the bill x2

d Top/echo voice: The NHS
We will defend the NHS x2
We will defend x2
We will defend the NHS

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

7 . Oh a revolution now

(to the tune of 'A drop o' Nelson's blood)

Some voices hold a long sustained note during the chorus, and harmony ad lib!

Oh a revolution now
wouldn't do us any harm
(x 3)

And we're leading from
behind.

Chorus

And we'll sing along for a
better world (x 3)

And we're leading from
behind.

2 a change of
government

3 to cancel Brexit now

4 to fund the NHS

5 an alliance of the left.

8. Singing for our lives

see first song - 'We are
the Seagreensingers' -
verses chosen ad lib

8

9. Siyahamba

- We are Singing for a
better world

Siya hamba me ni loko
lo,
Siya hamba me ni loko lo
(x2)

Siya hamba hamba, siya
hamba, hamba
Siya hamba me ni loko lo
(x2)

We are marching in the
name of peace

We are marching in the
name of peace(x2)

We are marching,
marching, we are
.marching, marching
we are marching in the
name of peace(x2)

We are singing for a
better world

We are singing for a
better world (x2)

We are singing, singing,
we are singing, singing
we are singing for a
better world (x2)

14/05/2017,21:10 PM

We are dancing in the
name of peace etc.

11. Transition Town Medley

a. (Tune: Oh When the
Saints)
We'll dig the soil and
plant our seeds,
We'll dig the soil and
plant our seeds,
We wanna eat a local
diet, We'll dig the soil and
plant our seeds!

b. (Tune: Swing Low
Sweet Chariot)
Windmills and solar
power, Coming forth to
power my home,
Windmills and solar
power, Coming forth to
power my home.

c. (Tune: I'm Gonna
Sing)
Take the train, train,
train, Take the bus, bus,
bus,

9

Take the train, take the
bus, Ride your bike,
When the aeroplanes are
gone I'll stop singing you
this song,
Take the train, take the
bus, Ride your bike!