

**SeaGreen Singers
(Oxford)**

**Levellers, Internationale Conscientious
Objectors Day and Leicester Street Choir
Festival Songbook - May 2016**

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Lyrics & Song sheets

For scores in musical notation and mp3 sound files of the choral parts for these songs look at the SeaGreen Singers website:
www.seagreensingers.com

The Seagreen Singers are a group based in Oxford singing songs to change the world about peace, protest, environment, feminism.

The SeaGreen Singers is named after the colour of the ribbons worn by the Levellers, a radical movement in Cromwell's Model Army. The Levellers believed in equality for all, justice, and human rights.

All are welcome to join, you don't need singing experience, and you don't need to read music. We meet at St.Columba's Church Hall, Alfred Street (just off the High Street, Carfax end) Oxford, on Mondays at 8pm.

For more information ring 07815 914776, or email mail@seagreensingers.com or look at the website

<http://www.seagreensingers.com>

**Levellers Day 2016,
Saturday 14th May:
assemble by 10.15am
church yard**

1. We are the Oxford Sea Green Singers (2.Gentle angry. 3. Red & green, 4. Oxford SGS)
2. Levellers Day Song
Mike
3. John Ball Hazel
4. Tom Paine's bones
Sue
5. Rosa Parkes Liz
6. No going back Sarah
7. I want Rosa to stay
Emma
8. Calais song - Let us in
9. Fat Cat
10. Fight the cuts
Bridget
11. Which side are you on

**International
Conscientious Objectors
Day event, Bonn Square,
12 noon, Sun. 15th May**

1. We are the Oxford Sea Green Singers (one verse)
2. Lay down your sword and shield
3. Foolish Notion Sue
4. We are all under the stars Sarah
5. Bringing peace is on our shoulders Becky
6. This is my prayer for peace
7. We are not just against the fighting Hazel
8. We've sung a 1000 songs of peace
9. Where have all the flowers gone - with audience and signs

When A Soldier Goes Off To War

Francis Lemarque

1. Gun wreathed in roses,
drum beating he goes
twenty years old, a lovers
heart that glows
a serjeant there to keep
him on his toes
his rucksack bouncing out
the beat he knows

2. When a soldier goes off
to war he has
a generals baton in his
army bags
When a soldier comes
back from war he has
some dirty laundry in his
bag and rags

To go, die a little more, in
the war, in the war
It's just a funny little game,
a game that lovers all
abhor
But when it is time to leave

Always summer time, the
sun in its prime
The sky looks down on the
ones
marching off to die
stepping out in (or of) time

3. Of Men there's never
quite enough,
and the war, and the war
Cares not for soldiers vows
of love,
it likes drum-beats strong
and tough

4. When a soldier goes off
to war he has
some flowers and some
songs he can recall
When a soldier comes
back from war he has
[simply a lot of luck and
that is all] x2 simply a lot of
luck and that is all

Fat Cat

Liverpool Socialist Choir - CP
Huskisson

FAT CAT, The indefensible
FAT CAT, The
reprehensible
Leader of the Tory regime
He's just like a cat with the
cream
FAT CAT
You know you want to just
Run him out of town
He's unfair, He don't care,
He's a millionaire
He's a Tory prat, FAT CAT
FAT CAT, The
indefensible
FAT CAT, The
reprehensible
Banking bailout scandalous
scheme
Treats him like the cat with
the cream
FAT CAT
You know you want to just
Tax him 'til he squeals
He's a cad, He's a toff, It's
the biggest rip-off

He's a bonus brat, FAT
CAT.

Revolt*Sébastien Faure*

1. We are downtrodden
victims all
of all the wars,
wars now and wars back in
the past
Exploited by tyrants and
made
to serve the rich and
wealthy gov'ning class
But we will not accept
again
a system that gave our
parents pain
We want to free ourselves
from that which keeps us
bound
in our own misery.

Chorus: The Church and
Parliament.
Judges and Magistrates
and Militarism
Bosses and Managers.
Let us all get rid of
capitalism.
Our need is urgent now
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to overthrow the old world
of authority.
And with fraternal hearts
We'll realize the ideal of
liberty.

2. We workers and we
farmers all
who labour in the factory or
in the fields
We are from a very young
age
made to do work that is
hard and that kills.
Yet it is we grow the food
and we who make all of the
stuff to sell
Yet we live destitute and
poor
in poverty our lives a
waking hell

3. The state taxes us freely
all
to pay the police, judges,
army and the crown
If we protest too much then
they
Without a second thought
just shoot us down.

2. Well I've read the
headlines in papers I've
bought
The panic that passes as
rational thought
Written by peddlars of
falsehood and fear
Who say it's a problem that
Rosa is here.
They want to make Roasa
their next deportee
Saying she takes resouces
intended for me
And rich men in mansions
say that's why I'm poor
But I don't remember being
wealthy before.

Chorus

3. So I won't be swayed by
the things that you say
Cos I understand why you
play it this way
For I see a world that is
owned by the few
And run in your interest to
benefit you

So if we get angry at
what we obtain
You need someone easy to
carry the blame
And Rosa's the one that
you hope we'll pursue
So we won't go pointing the
finger at you

[We want Rosa to stay
We want Rosa to stay
We want Rosa to stay
Not just today
Or tomorrow
But forever] x2

Craonne

1. When one weeks rest
ends, to the trenches we're
sent,
To start all over again
We soon find they are in a
stew
Without us they've not got
a clue.

Once more to the war,
once more life's a bore ,
The guns never-ending
roar.
And with hearts like lead,
our sadness unsaid
Out of our civvies we tread.
Theres no trumpet call, or
drum roll.
Instead we go over the top,
just lowering our head

Chorus
Farewell to love, farewell to
life
Farewell to girls sweet
smile

Soon it's the end, forget
what's been
The end of this war
obscene
Its at Craonne, on the
plateau
Our lives we must let go
We, the condemned, pay
the price
We are the sacrifice

2. One week in the trench,
One week of distress
We cling to the hope we
possess
That this night we'll get
relieved
That tonight we get
rerieved
So soft in the night, such
peace and such quiet
A shadow moves into our
sight
It moves at snails pace.
Our officers face
He's coming to take our
place
In shadows rain falls, and
out in the gloom

E'er the thieves will out
with their booty [give up
their booty]
And to all give a happier
lot.
Each [those] at the forge
must do his [their] duty
And strike the iron while it's
hot
[And we'll strike while the
iron is hot.]

No more deluded by
reaction
On tyrants only we'll make
war
The soldiers too will take
strike action
They'll break ranks and
fight no more
And if those cannibals keep
trying
To sacrifice us to their
pride
They soon shall hear the
bullets flying
We'll shoot the generals on
our own side.

Verse 2 requested by
Levellers Day Committee
for Levellers Day, May 16th
2015 to replace verse 2
above.

2. No more deluded by
reaction
On tyrants only we'll make
war
The soldiers too will take
strike action
They'll break ranks and
fight no more
And if those cannibals keep
trying
To sacrifice us to their
pride
They soon shall hear the
bullets flying
We'll shoot the generals on
our own side.

Transition Town Melody

1. 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
(Tune : *Oh When the
Saints*)

2. Wind-mills and solar
power
Com-ing forth to power my
home
Wind-mills and solar power
Com-ing forth to power my
home
(Tune: *Swing Low Sweet
Chariot*)

3. Take the train, train, train
Take the bus, bus, bus,
Take the train, take the
bus,
Ride your bike

When the aero-planes
are gone
I'll stop singing you this
song
Take the train, take the
bus,
Ride your bike
(Tune: *I'm Gonna Sing*)

Easy Money

1. The way I get my easy
money, is when
employment rules are light.
The rules are light
[I open and I close the
factories down without a
thought for workers rights]
x2

2. I opened workshops for
the children, in the far East
and other lands, in other
lands.
[Their little hands can sew
the shoes up much
cheaper than their parents
can]. x2

Others: ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.
All: Seeking justice for all be
sure,
Bass: As the war went on the
rules seemed to change and
the generals words were lies,
Others: Levellers marching,
levellers marching, levellers
marching, ooh
Sops: We gathered and
grew, one thousand strong
Others: We shall not give up
the fight, we shall not give the
fight,
All: One vote a'piece our cry,
One vote a'piece our cry

2. All: Together we marched
as strong as the sea, sea-
green was the colour of our
standard
Tenors: But we'd not take
part in that Irish killing spree,
Others: ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.
All: We strode towards
Oxford.
Bass: We stopped for to rest,
that's where we were caught
out, Took refuge in the
church at Burford.
Others: Levellers marching,
levellers marching, levellers
marching, ooh

Sops: Three days with no
hope, we carved our names
Others: We shall not give up
the fight, we shall not give the
fight,
All: Then Fairfax shot us
dead, He shot three levellers
dead

3. All: We were known as the
levellers, a name for which
we're proud, Our belief that
we all are equal.
Tenors: The levellers we
were then, and levellers we
are now,
Others: ooh, ooh, ooh, ooh.
All: We work for the good of
all.
Bass: We speak 'gainst
injustice for for those who
have no voice, we'll stand in
all situations.
Others: Levellers marching,
levellers marching, levellers
marching, ooh,
Sops: Remembering all those
who've died for this cause
Others: We shall not give up
the fight, we shall not give the
fight,
All: The struggle carries on.
The levellers carry on.

Street Choir Festival,

Leicester, 24th to 26th June
2016

Suggestions for songs: (all
songs are on the website)

Txoria Txori or Hegoak

(Basque)

Hegoak ebaki banizkion
neria izango zen,
ez zuen alde egingo.

Baina honela
ez zen gehiago txoria
izango.

Eta nik txoria nuen maite.
Eta nik txoria nuen maite.

La la la ra la...

If I had just clipped its
wings
it would then have
belonged to me,
it would never have flown
away. x2

But doing it that way
it would no longer have
been a bird. x2

And I really loved that bird.
And I really loved that bird.

La la la ra la...

We're all in this together -

Capt A Drummond, N. Newitt,
arr. J. Bursall

1. The poor must pay the
bankers, while the rich get
off scot-free
Its what you should
remember when you pay
your VAT
'Cause we're ail in this
together, with the bosses
and billionaires
Yes, we're all in this
together, 'cept we pay the
lion's share.

2. The poor must pay the
bankers, while the rich get
off scot-free

1. You never knew my
Nana, she died some years
ago
She lived in that old folks
home in Moss Side, you
know,
I used to go on Sundays,
sometimes took the kids
I was always so proud of
what she did

Chorus:

Nana was a suffragette, one
of the last alive
Nana was a suffragette,
over ninety five
Singing "Votes for women,
is just the beginning
You haven't seen anything
yet" -
Nana was a suffragette

3. The proudest day in
Nana's life was when thé
vote was won
The papers said "It's over!"
but Nan had just begun
Her Women's Committee
went on to organize
And challenged the Union,
the Council and their lies

Chorus

Nana was a suffragette, only
five foot tall
Nana was a suffragette,
took on City Hall
Singing...

4. (*Women only*) Now here I
stand so proudly with my
college degree
And my daughters have
more options than Nana
could foresee
But if you think we're
satisfied, take a look around
There's a lot of angry
women won't let their
Nana's down

Chorus

Nana was a suffragette; it's
as if she's still alive,
Nana was a suffragette,
their voices still survive
Singing votes for Women is
just the beginning
You haven't seen anything
yet
Nana was a suffragette.

Where have all the flowers gone

Pete Seeger 1955

All:

Where have all the flowers gone, long time passing?
Where have all the flowers gone, long time ago?
Where have all the flowers gone?
Girls have picked them every one
When will they ever learn?
When will they ever learn?

Women:

Where have all the young girls gone, long time passing?
Where have all the young girls gone, long time ago?
Where have all the young girls gone?
Gone for husbands everyone.
When will they ever learn?
When will they ever learn?

Men:

Where have all the husbands gone, long time passing?
Where have all the husbands gone, long time ago?
Where have all the husbands gone?
Gone for soldiers everyone
When will they ever learn?
When will they ever learn?

Women:

Where have all the soldiers gone, long time passing?
Where have all the soldiers gone, long time ago?
Where have all the soldiers gone?
Gone to graveyards, everyone.
When will they ever learn?
When will they ever learn?

4. Women only:. Some families deny
it some families understand
That a woman's' rights are equal to the rights of man.
So if you call me "sister" when I join your picket line,
Better be there with me brother when I fight for mine.....
For there is....

5. All parts - Alone I'm going, nowhere, but with friends here by my side,
We'll face a better future and the storm we'll ride.
All parts - We'll finish what we started, go on as we begin,
We've only chains to lose and all the world to win....
And there is....

Foolish Notion

Holly Near

Chorus

Why do we kill people who
are killing people
to show that killing people
is wrong,
What a foolish notion that
war is called devotion,
When the greatest warriors
are the ones who stand for
peace.

1. War toys are growing
stronger, the problems stay
the same.

The young ones join the
army while general 'what's
his name'
is feeling full of pride that
the army will provide but
does he ask himself

Chorus:

2. Death row is growing
longer, the problems stay
the same,

The poor ones get thrown
in prison while warden
'what's his name'
is feeling justified, but when
will he be tried for never
asking.

optional

3. Blair, Bush and new war-
mongers, the problems
stay the same

Devout ones become
jihadis, while politicians
spread the blame
all are self-justified, and
honour satisfied
but will they ask
themselves:

The sturdy German
chants its praise,
In Moscow's vaults its
hymns are sung
Chicago swells the surging
throng.

Rosa Parks

Words and music Polly Bolton

Structure: A, B, A, C, A, B, A,
Coda

A section

Oh Rosa Parks, she would
not stand for the white folk
I said Oh Rosa Parks, she
would not stand on the bus
x2

B section

Oh what a difference that
woman made x4

C section

I'm gonna sit, I'm gonna sit
at the front of the bus
Ain't gonna stand, ain't
gonna stand at the back of
the bus

Ain't gonna stand, ain't
gonna stand at the back of
the bus
I'm gonna sit, I'm gonna sit
at the front of the bus

Coda

She would not stand
Oh she would not stand
No she would not stand on
the bus

**This is my prayer for
peace,**

This is my prayer for
peace, shalom, salam

Peace event in Bonn Square, Sun. 15th May

Aint Gonna Study War

soprano and alto

lay down your sword and shield

lay your weapons down

lay down your guns

by the river side

bass

war war no more

war war no more

lay down your guns

lay down your guns

by the river side

tenor

aint gonna study war-ar

aint gonna study war

lay down your gu-uns

by the river side

Bringing Peace/Salaam

Sop, alto, tenor

1. Bringing peace is on our shoulders x3, on everyone.

repeat line twice

[Salaam for us and for all of the world, salaam, salaam],

x2

2. Arabic - Wazheebah lay-nahneh nah zheeb x3, ah salaam

repeat line twice

[Salaam, leh-nah wa ley

kul-ah ah lam, salaam,

salaam], x2

3. Hebrew - Od ya vo shalom a-lay-nu x3, vey al-ku-lam.

repeat line twice

[Salaam a-lay-nu vey al-

kol-ha-o-lam, shalom,

salaam], x2

Bass

Bringing peace, bringing peace, on every one

It was written there in Tom Paine's plan.

Chorus

4. (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

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

We Are All Under The Stars

by Ali Burns. Text to accompany song at end.

Chorus: We are all under the stars and no matter how far we are apart we are all under the stars

Sections:

ey ee ey ey ey ee ey ey ee

ey ey ee ey

except 2nd Bass starting at section 4

du du du etc finishing with ey

Structure:

During the sections between choruses a text is read over the top of the choir.

The first section and chorus are sung by Sop/Alto/Tenor
Bass is added at section 2;
High Sop at section 3;
2nd Bass at section 4 and all sing last chorus 5