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**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

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

We are gay and straight  
together,  
and we are singing, singing  
for our lives

We are gay and straight  
together,  
and we are singing, singing  
for our lives

We are anti-nuclear  
people,  
and we are singing, singing  
for our lives

We are anti-nuclear  
people,  
and we are singing, singing  
for our lives

**Text to accompany 'We  
are all under the stars' -**

**Extracts from the  
Manifesto of the No-  
Conscription Fellowship,  
September 1915**

Whatever the purpose to  
be achieved by war,  
however high the ideals for  
which belligerent nations  
may struggle, for us 'thou  
shalt not kill' means what it  
says.

We have been brought to  
this standpoint by many  
ways. Some of us have  
reached it through the  
Christian faith in which we  
have been reared, and to  
the interpretation of which  
we plead the right to stand  
loyal.

Others have found it by  
association with  
international movements;

we believe in the  
solidarity of the human  
race, and we cannot betray  
the ties of brotherhood  
which bind us to one  
another through the nations  
of the world.

All of us, however we may  
have come to this  
conviction, believe in the  
value and sacredness of  
human personality, and are  
prepared to sacrifice as  
much in the cause of the  
world's peace as our  
fellows are sacrificing in the  
cause of the nation's war.

## Fight the cuts

Bridget Walker

to the tune of 'Rock my Soul in  
the Bosom of Abraham'  
Harmony sing the first three  
words of each verse slowly over  
the top; women and men  
alternate with the harmonic line.

Fight the cuts, they mustn't  
get away with it x 3  
Fight, fight the cuts

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

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

## I want Rosa to stay

Alun Parry -  
We don't sing verse 2

1. Hello Rosalita, I know  
your name  
I've learned to pronounce it  
again and again  
For I got to know you and I  
know you well  
So I don't believe all the  
tales that they tell  
No I don't believe  
Rosalita's a threat  
Or that she's a strain on  
the national debt  
For Rosa has spirit and  
courage galore  
To brave every ocean and  
land on this shore

Chorus

I want Rosa to stay  
I want Rosa to stay  
I want Rosa to stay  
Not just today  
Or tomorrow  
But forever

The names of those who  
have the power  
They move around, they  
call it politics  
But those who get to make  
the laws  
are always part of the very  
same old clique

4. We're told we must  
protect the banks,  
The companies and  
leaders of our industry  
And so we must go fight  
and die  
To give protection to our  
country  
But we, have nothing to  
protect  
We have nothing and we  
all hate a war,

*Sébastien Faure (born January  
6, 1858 in Saint-Étienne, Loire,  
France; died July 14, 1942 in  
Royan, Charente-Maritime,  
France) was a French  
anarchist,[1] freethought and  
secularist activist and a  
principal proponent of synthesis  
anarchism.[2][3]*

*Before becoming a free-  
thinker, Faure was a seminarist.  
He engaged in politics as a  
socialist before turning to  
anarchism in 1888.*

*In 1918, he was imprisoned for  
organizing an illegal meeting.*

## Internationale - Traditional version (1871)

We usually sing 3 verses.

1. Arise ye workers  
[starvelings] from your  
slumbers  
Arise ye prisoners of want  
For reason in revolt now  
thunders  
And at last ends the age of  
cant.  
Away with all your  
superstitions  
Servile masses arise, arise  
We'll change forthwith  
[henceforth] the old  
conditions [tradition]  
And spurn the dust to win  
the prize.  
Chorus:  
So comrades, come rally  
And the last fight let us  
face  
The Internationale unites  
the human race.  
So comrades, come rally  
And the last fight let us  
face

The Internationale unites  
the human race.

2. We peasants artisans  
and others  
Enrolled among the sons of  
toil  
Let's claim the earth  
henceforth for brothers  
Drive the indolent from the  
soil  
On our flesh too long has  
fed the raven  
We've too long been the  
vulture's prey  
But now, farewell the spirit  
craven  
The dawn brings in a  
brighter day

3. No saviour from on high  
delivers  
No faith have we in prince  
or peer  
Our own right hand the  
chains must shiver  
Chains of hatred, greed  
and fear

The Tommies go out to  
look for their tomb  
Chorus

3. Its shameful to see in  
streets of the city  
Rich folk making merry  
If for them life seems divine  
Then, as for us, it is not so  
fine  
Rather than lay low, these  
shirkers should go  
Up there right up to the  
front  
Defending their haul, cos'  
we've got sod all  
We only know how to fall  
Our comrades in arms  
They're buried right here  
Defending the wealth of  
those rich folk there

Final Chorus  
Those with the cash, they  
will come back  
It is for them we're dying  
But change is ahead, cos'  
soldiers have said  
That they will all soon be  
striking

And then its your turn,  
Rich slobs to go  
on the plateau instead  
'Cos if your keen on this  
war  
Pay for it with your head

*This was sung by the first world war soldiers on the front at l'Aisne where the plain of Craonne is. It was sung after the offensive of Nivelle (200,000 dead in 2 months) and the mutinies of April 1917 (3500 condemned with 500 executed). The army offered a bounty for anyone identifying the authors of the song. The tune is a romantic melody of Charles Sablon, "Bonsoir m'amour" very popular before the war.*

## Chorus

**John Ball**

Sidney Carter arr. CatKelly

1. Who will be the lady,  
who will be the lord  
When we are ruled by the  
love of one another  
Who'll be the lady, who will  
be the lord  
In the life that is coming in  
the morning

*Chorus:*

Sing John Ball and tell it to  
them all  
Long live the day that is  
dawning  
And I'll crow like a cock ,  
I'll carol like a lark  
For the life that is coming in  
the morning

2. Eve is the lady, Adam is  
the lord  
When we are ruled by the  
love of one another  
Eve is the lady, Adam is  
the lord  
In the life that is coming in  
the morning.

3. All shall be ruled by  
fellowship I say  
All shall be ruled by the  
love of one another  
All shall be ruled by  
fellowship I say  
In the life that is coming in  
the morning  
Chorus

4. Labour and spin for  
fellowship I say  
Labour and spin for the  
love of one another  
Labour and spin for  
fellowship I say  
And the life that is coming  
in the morning  
Chorus x2

**Levellers Day Song**

Jane Alexander, arr S Westcott

1. All: We fought for world  
where all people could be  
free, We fought in the Civil  
War  
Tenors: To end the power of  
the Monarchy

3. The night time I  
employ the women, their  
chance to earn a few more  
pence, a few more pence  
[That way they take care of  
their children, good family  
values and business  
sense.] x2

4. Today I'm a bus'ness  
consultant, I tell banks if  
their firms should shut, if  
they should shut.  
[Of course it breaks my  
heart to close them down,  
but that's the way I get my  
cut] x2

5. Next job is power house  
the North then there is the  
west and south and east,  
then there's the east  
[Each time I close a fact'ry  
down there is always a few  
million for me] x2

## Let us in: Calais refugee song

Jane Lewis

1. When I open my eyes I see a barbed wire fence, and a hungry face and a broken tent, when I close my eyes I see a man with a gun, going round and round and round and round in my head.

### *Chorus*

Please give us a place at your table, let us in, let us in. Can you share of your sal-mon and honey Our pain is your pain too

2. And the soles of my feet are rubbed red and raw from a burn-ing treck over Syr-ian sands where my daugh-ter was taken right out of my hands going round and round and round and round in my head

### *Chorus*

3. And the bombs you sold are the bombs we heard crash-ing into dust with a blind-ing light And my mother and father both died that night going round and round and round and round in my head.

### *Chorus over verse?*

Please give us a place at your table, let us in, let us in (x2) let us in.

### *Last chorus?*

Please give us a place at your table, let us in, let us in. Can you share of your sal-mon and honey Our pain is your pain too Our hope is your hope too Our life is your life too

### **Nana was a suffragette -**

Jules Gibb - SGS version

Yes, that's the real meaning of this 'Big Society'<sup>1</sup> 'Cause we're ail in this together, with the cabinet millionaires Yes, we're all in this together, but we pay the lion's share.

3. I tell you we're regressing back to those days of old, When the poor and the disabled were left out in the cold, But "We're all in this together", yes, that is what they boast, But they always seem to scapegoat those who need the help the most.

4. We don't need competition within the National Health, It's simply part of Tory plans to privatise by stealth,

No, we all must work together for the common good of all, Yes, we all must work together 'gainst the super-rich in Whitehall,

### Coda

'Cause we're all in this together 'gainst the cabinet millionaires, Yes, we'll fight them all together, so they pay the lion's share.

**No Going Back**

By Mal Finch, arr: B Westacott

1. All parts - The world is turning, changing, with the seasons of the year,  
Flowers grow where once the earth was cold and bare.  
Streams feed the rivers,  
rivers feed the sea.  
And the strength of my,  
friends will feed the change in me.

Chorus:

(For there is) no going,  
back  
There is no limit now, No  
going back,  
We're too deep in it now,  
No going back,  
We're different women  
now, No going back.

2. All parts - Since the  
miner's strike has ended a  
new life has begun,

We're different women  
after all we've seen and  
done.

All women - We've learned  
the world's divided, and we  
have made our choice,  
We may have lost a battle  
but we've found a voice.  
And there is...

3. Solo man - Life's hard if  
you're a worker, it's harder  
if you're black,  
It's hard when you are old  
or poor or get the sack.  
Solo woman - It's harder  
for a woman when she tries  
to say  
That she doesn't think the  
kitchen sink is where she'll  
stay  
And there is...

*All:*

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

**Red Flag**

Jim Connell

1. The people's flag is  
deepest red,  
It shrouded oft our  
martyred dead,  
And ere their limbs grew  
stiff and cold,  
Their hearts blood dyed its  
every fold.

**Chorus**

Then raise the scarlet  
standard high.  
Beneath its shade we'll live  
and die,  
Though cowards flinch and  
traitors sneer,  
We'll keep the red flag  
flying here.

3. It waved above our  
infant might,  
When all ahead seemed  
dark as night;  
It witnessed many a deed  
and vow,  
We must not change its  
colour now.

13

6. With heads  
uncovered swear we all  
To bear it onward till we  
fall;  
Come dungeons dark or  
gallows grim,  
This song shall be our  
parting hymn.

4. It well recalls the  
triumphs past,  
It gives the hope of peace  
at last;  
The banner bright, the  
symbol plain,  
Of human right and human  
gain.

5. It suits today the weak  
and base,  
Whose minds are fixed on  
pelf and place  
To cringe before the rich  
man's frown,  
And haul the sacred  
emblem down.

2. Look round, the  
Frenchman loves its blaze,

**Lay down your sword**

see Aint gonna study war

**We are not just against  
the fighting,**

Sue Gilmurray

We are not just against the  
fighting, we are for peace  
x2

We are for peace, we are  
for peace.

We are not just against the  
fighting, we are for peace

We are not just against the  
killing, we are for peace x2  
We are for peace, we are  
for peace.

We are not just against the  
killing, we are for peace

We are not just a tribe or  
nation, we are one world x2  
We are one world, We are  
one world.

We are not just a tribe or  
nation, we are one world.

**Tom Paines Bones**

by Graham Moore

1. (Bass) As I dreamed out one evening,  
By a river of discontent,  
I bumped straight into old Tom Paine,  
As a-running down the road he went,  
He said, "I can't stop right now, my son, King George is after me,  
He'll have a rope around my throat  
And hang me on the Liberty Tree"

*Chorus*

And 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.

2. (Sops) He said "I just spoke about freedom,  
And justice for everyone,  
Ever since the very first word I spoke  
I've been looking down the barrel of a gun,  
Well they say I preached revolution,  
Let me say in my defence  
That all I did wherever I went  
Was to talk a lot of common sense."

*Chorus*

3. (Bass) Well, old Tom Paine he ran so fast,  
He left me standing still,  
And there I was, a piece of paper in my hand,  
And standing at the top of the hill.  
(Unison)  
It said, "This is the Age Of Reason,  
And these are The Rights Of Man,  
Kick off religion and monarchy"

repeat line twice  
Salaam for us and for all of the world, salaam, salaam,  
x2

Wazheeb al-lah, wazheeb al-lah, ah salaam  
repeat line twice  
Salaam, leh-nah wa ley kul-ah ah lam, salaam,  
salaam, x2

Od ya vo Od ya vo, vey al-ku-lam.  
repeat line twice  
Salaam a-lay-nu vey al-kol-ha-o-lam, shalom, salaam,  
x2

### **We've sung a thousand songs of peace,**

We've sung a thousand songs of peace,  
and we will sing ten thousand more,  
for how can we be silent,  
when the guns still roar

### **Which side are you on**

[all parts joining in one by one for intro]

1. Which side are you,  
Which side are you  
Come all of you good people,  
You women and you men  
Once more our backs are to the wall,  
we're being attacked again

2. Which side are you,  
Which side are you  
Don't scab for the bosses,  
Don't listen to their lies,

Us workers haven't got a chance,  
Unless we organise  
3. Which side are you,  
Which side are you  
We fought a million battles,  
To defend our hard won rights  
We're going to have to fight again,  
And I ask you here [tonight]

4. Which side are you,  
Which side are you  
It's time for a decision,  
And you really have to choose  
Defend the workers' struggle,  
Or the next in line is you

### **Siya Hamba -**

We are Singing in the Name of Peace  
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 singing in name of peace  
We are singing in name of peace (x2)  
We are singing.singing, we are singing singing  
we are singing in the name of peace (x2)  
  
justice, freedom, voting, marching, etc.

### **Singaba hamba yo thina**

*Sequence:*

*Bass: bars 1-4 x 2*

*Bass + Tenor: bars 1-4 x 2*

*Bass + Tenor + Alto: bars 1-4 x 2*

*Everyone: whole song x 2*

Singaba hamba yo thina  
kul lom hlaba ke pha sin e kha ya, e Zul wi ni  
Singaba hamba yo thina  
kul lom hlaba ke pha sin e kha ya, e Zul wi ni  
ha le lu ya, ha le lu ya, ha le lu ya  
ha le lu ya, ha le lu ya, ha le lu ya

Sop

Singaba hamba yo thina  
kul lom hlaba ke pha sin e kha ya, e Zul wi ni  
Singaba hamba yo thina  
kul lom hlaba ke pha sin e kha ya, e Zul wi Si thi,  
sit thi, sit thi, ha le lu ya, ha le lu ya, ha le lu ya