

# Henry Every

Words and Music: Nigel Harbron

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of seven staves of music. The lyrics are: Hen - ry Ev - er - y, Ben - ja - min Bridge - man, Long Ben and John A - ver - y, These are the names - that I have used - As I've sailed on the salt, salt sea. I was born in Ply-mouth, in the coun - ty of De - von, Where I spent all my time down by the dock - side, And when I was just four - teen, a Cap - tain took me on his ship, Which sailed from old - En - gland on a high spring tide. For years I was a sai - lor, though I ne - ver was a whal - er, And pre - cious lit - tle tin I did earn for my pain, But in six - teen nine - ty one, I joined Red Hand's mer - ry men, And my pros - pects they looked up, as a pir - ate I be - came.

*Ch: Henry Every, Benjamin Bridgeman,  
Long Ben and John Avery -  
These are the names that I have used  
As I've sailed on the salt, salt sea.*

I was born in Plymouth, in the county of Devon  
Where I spent all my time down by the dockside,  
And when I was just fourteen, a Captain took me on his ship  
Which sailed from Old England on a high Spring tide.  
For years I was a sailor, though I never was a whaler,  
And precious little tin I did earn for my pain,  
But in sixteen ninety one, I joined Red Hand's merry men,  
And my prospects they looked up, as a pirate I became.

Now the pickings they were rich as slaves comprised our cargo,  
But our skipper was a tyrant, by name of Captain Gibson.  
So one day when he was sleeping, we set a course to eastward,  
And with skull and crossbones flying, we set off to have some fun.  
We named our ship 'The Fancy', and we plundered ships a-plenty,  
We sported forty guns and a crew of fifty three.  
And in just two weeks of cruising off the coast of Madagascar,  
We sailed off with a hoard of gold and ivory.

As our reputation grew, the Royal Navy sought to find us,  
So we headed for East India, to find a place to land.  
But we came upon a vessel with an escort close up to it,  
And from it came away with a load of contraband.  
If I'd known what lay in store, I'd have headed straight for shore,  
For the Mogul owned the ship I had foolishly waylaid.  
And with a bounty on my head, I headed out to open sea,  
But it wasn't long before I found my presence was betrayed.

So now I face the gallows, and no man around supports me,  
Though I never wronged a Dutchman or a vessel of the Crown.  
Like many all around me, all I've done is seek my fortune,  
And I've only killed those few brave souls who chose to stand their ground.  
All my friends have now deserted, to a pauper I've reverted,  
I can't afford a coffin or a tombstone in my name,  
And when that I am dead and rotting in my grave  
I'll spend eternity thinking of what I became.



**This is believed to be Henry Every's personal flag - complete with Royal Family headscarf!**

*Sadly, pirates are still operating in parts of the world - including the Mediterranean - but they no longer fly the skull and crossbones. The original skull and crossbones design is thought to have been used by ships of the Knights Templar, and became associated with pirates when unfriendly vessels also sported it in order to trick the Knights Templar into letting them board, only to plunder their ship.*