Eric Bogle "QUEENSLAND WHALERS"

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"Queensland Whalers"

-Eric Bogle

I've sailed the North Atlantic with ice flows in the breeze I've sailed the Dutch East Indies o'er the calm blue sunny seas

When I think of missing seamen me heart returns again To a season spent in Moretan Bay with Queensland Whaling Men.

Yo-ho you Queensland Whalers, you've cut the sugar cane

You've driven herds of cattle o'er the dry and dusty plain

You've dug the ore at Isa, laid countless miles of rail And now you've come to Moreton Bay to catch a Humpback Whale

To men who've chased the brumbies, caught bullocks by the tail

It really is no problem to catch a humpback whale You steer your iron sea-horse, poke your gun through the rigging struts

And when she runs through the coral scrub, you belt her in the guts

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You've dug the ore at Isa, laid countless miles of rail And now you've come to Moreton Bay to catch a Humpback Whale

Now men up in the crows nest, so whaling legends go When they spy a humpback whale they yell out "Thar She Blows!"

But here in sunny Queensland you'll often hear them shout

"There goes a bloody beauty mate, so get yer finger out!"

Yo-ho you Queensland Whalers, you've cut the sugar cane

You've driven herds of cattle o'er the dry and dusty plain

You've dug the ore at Isa, laid countless miles of rail And now you've come to Moreton Bay to catch a Humpback Whale

From Moreton to Caloundra, bronze whaler sharks abound

They wait like dingoes in the scrub for a wounded beast that's down

But but for all their bloody savagery, well they just can't compare

With the big bite that the tax man takes when he gets hold of your share!

Yo-ho you Queensland Whalers, you've cut the sugar cane

You've driven herds of cattle o'er the dry and dusty plain

You've dug the ore at Isa, laid countless miles of rail And now you've come to Moreton Bay to catch a Humpback Whale

And when the season's over, we'll head for Brisbane Town

And in the nearest boozer our sorrows we will drown With beer and firey whiskey and when we've had enough

We'll steer a steady zig zag course and never give a stuff!

Yo-ho you Queensland Whalers, you've cut the sugar cane

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