

The Herring's Head

What d'you do with fish - 's eyes? We'll make them in - - to pudd-ings and pies.

Chorus

Fish - 's eyes, (pudd-ings and pies) and all sorts of things. ___ Of all the fish - es

in the sea, the herr-ing's the king of the fish for me. Fol de rol de ri do, fol de rol de ray.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one flat) and 6/8 time. The first staff contains the main melody with lyrics. The second staff is labeled 'Chorus' and continues the melody. The third staff concludes the piece with the lyrics 'in the sea, the herr-ing's the king of the fish for me. Fol de rol de ri do, fol de rol de ray.'

Source: Sung by Ernie Payne and company in The Plough, Hawkesbury Upton. Collected by Gwilym Davies 24 June 1980.

Notes: Only one verse on the audio. The remainder dictated to collector. It is not known whether this version is cumulative or not. The verses are:

Fish's tails - ship's sails
Fish's head - loaves of bread
Fish's back - fishing smack
Fish's eyes - puddings and pies
Fish's ribs - cull cribs*

*sic - explained to collector as meaning shipwrecks.