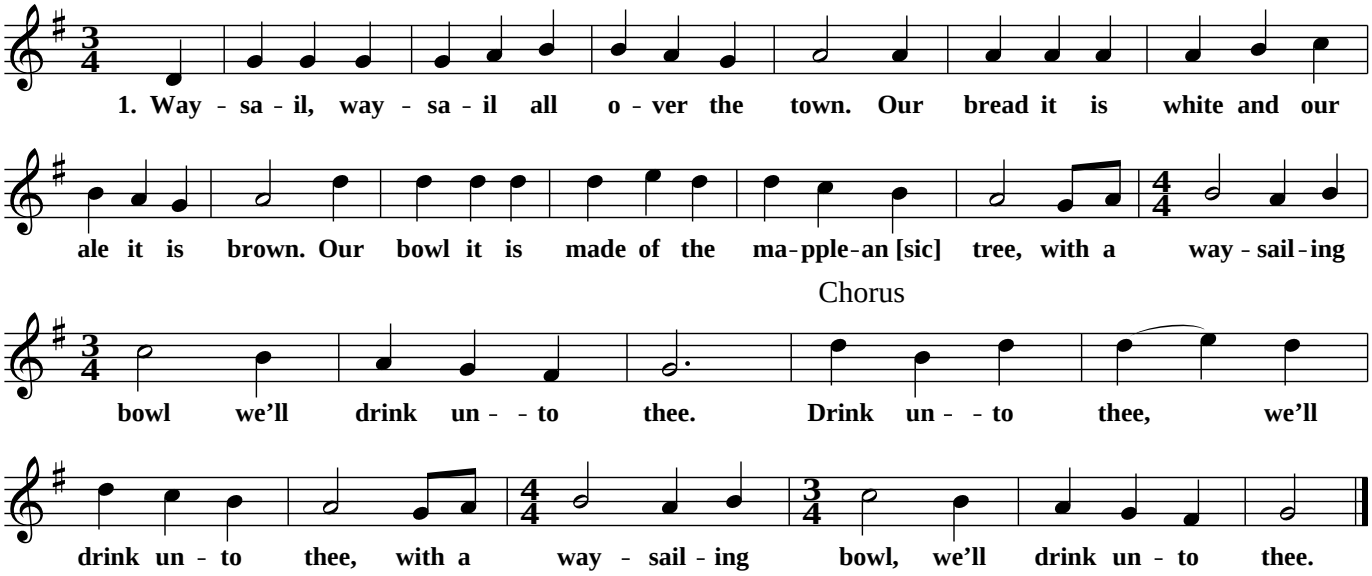
Wassail song

(Minchinhampton Wassail, The Jolly Wassail, The Waysailing Bowl)



2. Now, here's to old Broad and to his right ear.
   Pray God send our master a happy New Year.
   A happy New Year that we may all see.
   With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc

3. Now, here's to old Broad and to his right eye.
   Pray God send our master a good Christmas pie.
   A good Christmas pie that we may all see.
   With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc

4. Here's to old Broad and to his right arm.
   Pray God send our master a good crop of corn.
   A good crop of corn that we may all see.
   With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc

5. Here's to old Broad and to his right hip.
   Pray God send our master a jolly fat ship ['sheep'].
   A jolly fat ship that we may all see.
   With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc

6. Here's to old Broad and to his right leg.
   Pray God send our master a jolly fat pig.
   A jolly fat pig that we may all see.
   With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc

7. Here's to old Broad and to his right hoof.
   Pray God send our master a jolly fat goose.
   A jolly fat goose that we may all see.
   With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc.

8. Here's to old Broad and to his long tail.
   May God send our master a ne'er to us fail (?)
   A ne'er to us (?) fail, that we may all see.
   With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc

9. Come butler, come fill us a bowl of your best.
   I hope that in heaven your soul will rest.
   If you should fill us a bowl of your small,
   Then down goes butler, bowl and all

10. Come all you pretty maidens, I hope there is one
    Don't let the jolly wassailers stand on the cold stone,
    But lift up the latch and draw back the pin,
    And let the jolly waysailers walk in.

    Possible alternative verse 10:
    Now you pretty maids, I wish there were some
    As 'll come to the door and knock back the pin
    As 'll knock back the pin and let us come in.
    To the waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto thee, etc

11. Waysailers walk in and see how you do,
    And drink to our health and a welcome too.
    And drink to our health and a welcome too.
    With a waysailing bowl, we'll drink unto you, etc

Source: Sung by T J Tranter, Minchinhampton.
Learnt from William Evans of Tetbury St (Minchinhampton) 20 years previously.
Evans was then 68-70 years old. Collected by James Madison Carpenter between 1927 and 1935.

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