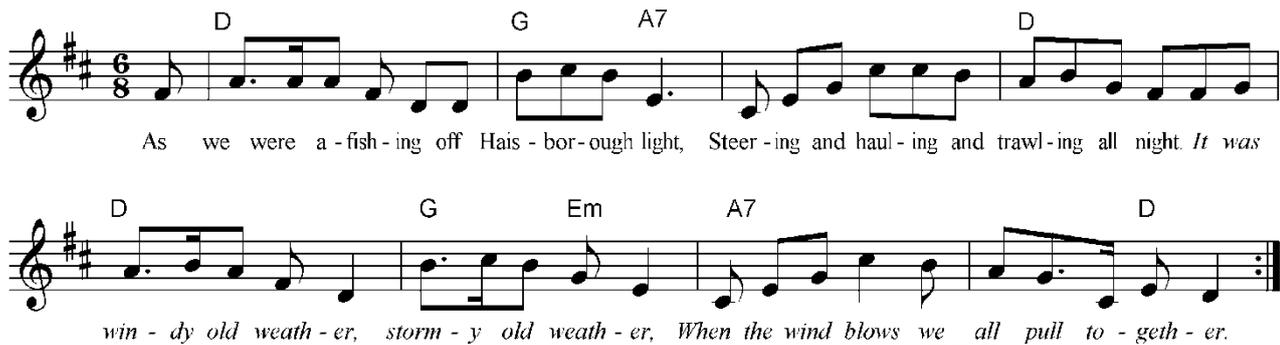


Windy old weather

<https://riverofsong.uk/>

When we 'pull together' problems can be overcome and friendships made. This shanty was popular throughout the merchant service, beginning life with the fishing fleet. It is found in Nova Scotia and the U.S. where it is known as 'The Boston Come-All-Ye'. I came across it in BBC radio 'Singing together' Autumn 1973. Cyril Tawney sang it in 1992 on his Neptune cassette of sea songs for children.



As we were a-fish-ing off Hais-bor-ough light, Steer-ing and haul-ing and trawl-ing all night. It was win-dy old weath-er, storm-y old weath-er, When the wind blows we all pull to-geth-er.

As we were a-fishing off Haisborough light,
Steering and hauling and trawling all night,

Chorus:

*It was windy old weather, stormy old weather,
When the wind blows, we all pull together.*

We sighted a herring, the king of the sea,
Says "Now, old skipper, you cannot catch me."

We sighted a mackerel with stripes on his back,
"Time, now, old skipper, to shift your main tack."

We sighted a conger as long as a mile.
"Wind's blowing easterly," he said with a smile.

We sighted a plaice that had spots on his side,
Says "Now, old skipper, these seas you won't ride."

I think what the fishes are saying is right.
We'll haul in our nets and we'll make for the Light.

