

Carols for Solstice

*A collection of 4&5 Part
arrangements for accompanied and
unaccompanied voices*



*Edited by
Tim Hall*

Carols for Solstice

This is a selection of restored solstice carols, these are not personal versions or parodies but restorations of the carols back to what might have been their original versions; Pagan Fertility Dance Songs. We're still looking for the dances to go with them.

Our modern day carols probably evolved from a tradition of pre-Christian sung fertility dances, which is believed to have survived up to the 14th Century in this country. The dances are believed to have been similar in format to the *brangle* (pronounced brawl) - Old French circle dances and Breton - style *Andro* or processional line dances.

There are lurid tales of debauched revelry and huge processions dancing from town to town, often lead by a naked woman. These would almost certainly be connected to the Germano - Celtic rite of Yule on winter solstice, celebrated as Saturnalia by the Romans. The Wassails come from a distinct Anglo-Saxon tradition, also connected with fertility. "Waes Heil" means *good health*

Many of these versions are the work of Norman Iles, to whom I am indebted, for his lifetime's work in searching out and restoring these songs and many others to their original meaning and form. My work has merely been to try to create performable versions of these tunes and add to the growing, living folk tradition of which we are all a very important part.

Credits

Grateful Acknowledgements are due to the members of the Glastonbury carol group and others that have helped make this project a reality: Jo Waterworth, Jay Litser, Lilli Mayborn, Beithe Woodburn, Sheena Johnstone, Sara de Vries, Maya Preece, Viv Andrae, Oshia Drury, Kideva, Viv Godwin, Stella Blue, Paula Jolly, Ruth Edgell, Maryjane Preece, Rohini Drury, Zoë Connolly, Laura Sky, Cameron Scott, Steve Potier, Sim, Jim Peters, Satch, Shamus Joy and Brian Gulland.

Thanks also to Cassie; Vicki and all at the Glastonbury Institute for Gracious Living for putting up with me while I've been slaving over a hot computer.

Benedictions and Tribute to the Avalonian Free State Choir, and all who sail in her.

Sources:

The Restoration of Cock Robin - Norman Iles - Hale

Who Really Killed Cock Robin? - Norman Iles - Hale

The Oxford Book of Carols

Carols for Solstice

Performance notes

Most of these carols are arranged for four or five part acappella performance. Parts are arranged as follows:

Sopranos:

Treble Clef - stems up

Altos:

Treble Clef - stems down

Tenors:

Bass Clef - stems up

Basses:

Bass Clef - stems down

Chord symbols are provided for the accompanied numbers.

It is suggested that the Carols be performed for the most part at a fairly brisk tempo and with a good deal of swing. They are meant to be fun and Raucous, one should adhere to the spirit of the season rather than the letter of the score.

A tape is available containing most of these Carols.

A collection of 4&5 part arrangements for accompanied and unaccompanied voices.

- | | |
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*Edited by
Tim Hall*

Welcum Yule

words by Norman Iles

music by Tim Hall

verse D *with gusto!* C D

1. Wel - come yule old hea - ven's king,
 2. red ro - bed one,
 3. good ne - ws bear - er,
 4. thy lo - g's a - flame,
 5. en - ter - this hall,
 6. as e - ver was,
 7. come we - ll in here,

C Em⁷ A D

Wel - come yule, born this mor - ning,
 come from the sun,
 of the new year,
 thy fire doth gain,
 cen - tre of all,
 as e - ver thus,
 make us good cheer,

D C D

Wel - come yule man full - smi - ling,
 our heart's crim - son,
 twelve da - ys you'll hear
 warmth gro - ws a - gain,
 our fir - st ca - rol,
 as e - ver must,
 once more thou art here,

C G D vs 2, 4 & 6

Wel - come, wel - come yule!



chorus:

D C Em7 D

Wel - come yule, thou me - rry man,

C C G D

Wel - come yule, spend here thy span,

D C Em7 D

Wel - come yule, thou me - rry man,

C G D

Wel - come, wel - come yule!

The Carol of the Unconquered Sun

words: Norman Iles

trad

ff NO WELL SING WE BOTH ALL AND SOME, THE SUN UN - CON - QUER - ED IS COME: He's
p Out
 The
 Oh,
 Praise

Ri sen up in love and joy, Flames out his fa - vour from the sky, His
 of the womb of deep - est night he's sprung with grow - ing warmth and light *f* to
 sa - ving sun to us was sent, to bliss us brought from black - ness bent, *p* Or
 he will shine with love and light, in furr - ows fair his penn - on strike, The
 to the sun for our com - fort, He's guid - ed us to join his sport, We'll

10

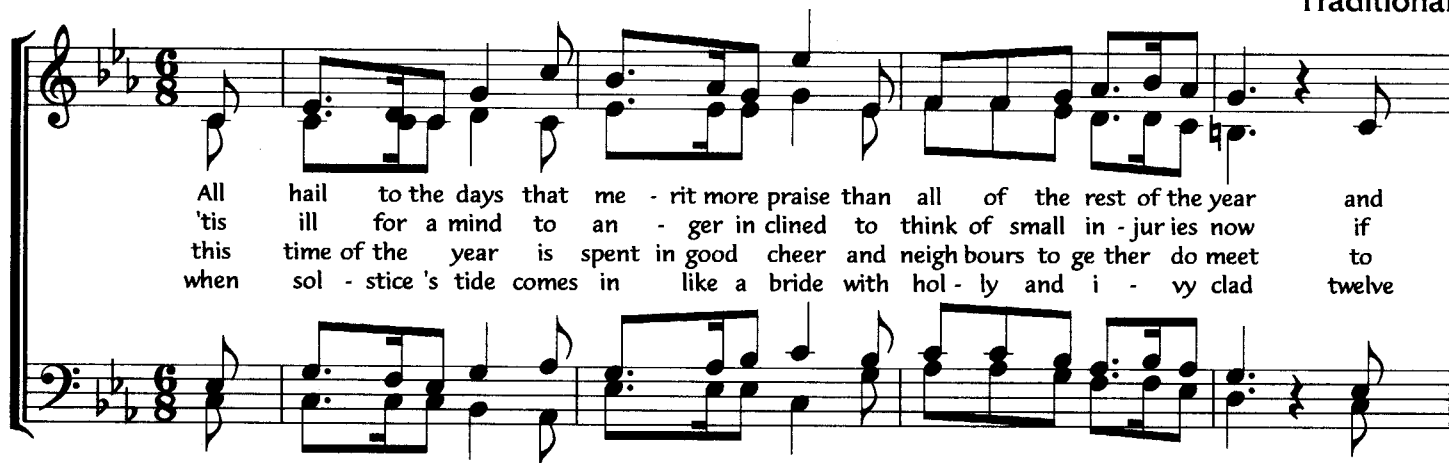
be - ing brings us gaie - ty BOTH ALL AND SOME, BOTH ALL AND SOME.
 cure dis - ease and put us right,
 else to death we down had went,
 earth is stirr - ed with lust for life,
 hold our hap - pi ness in his sort,

18



The Praise of Solstice

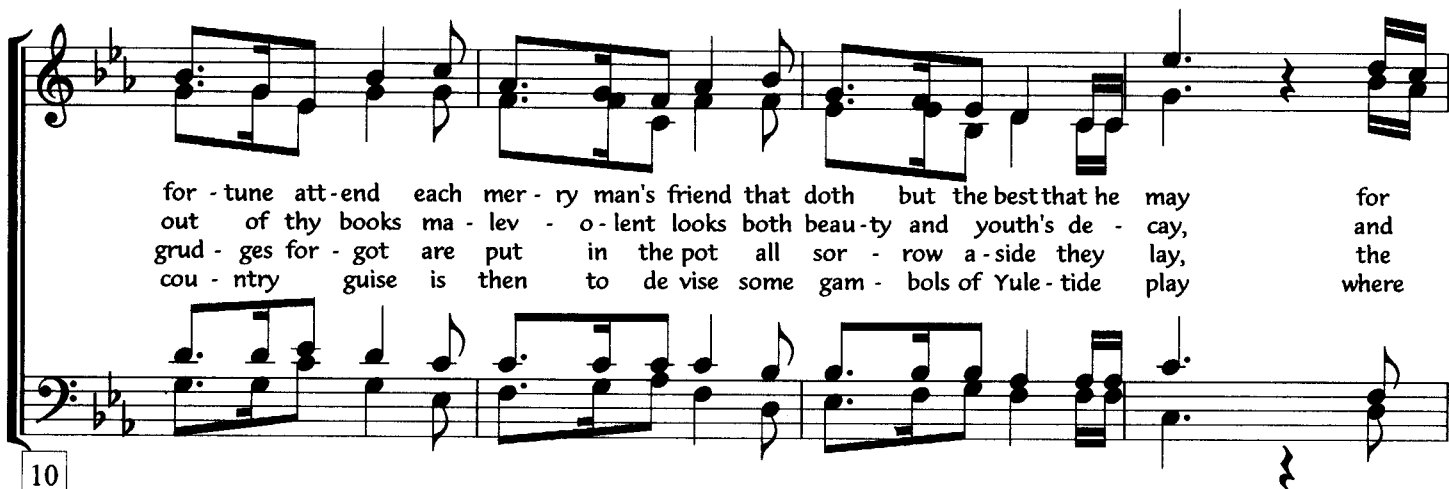
Traditional



All hail to the days that me - rit more praise than all of the rest of the year and
'tis ill for a mind to an - ger in clined to think of small in - juries now if
this time of the year is spent in good cheer and neigh bours to ge ther do meet to
when sol - stice's tide comes in like a bride with hol - ly and i - vy clad twelve



wel - come the nights that dou - ble de - lights as well for the poor as the peer good
wrath be to seek do not lend thy cheek or let it in ha - bit thy brow, cross
sit by the fire in frien - dly de - sire each oth - er in lo - ve to greet, old
days in the year much mirth and good cheer in e - very house hold is had, the



for - tune at - tend each mer - ry man's friend that doth but the best that he may for
out of thy books ma - lev - o - lent looks both beau - ty and youth's de - cay, and
grud - ges for - got are put in the pot all sor - row a - side they lay, the
cou - ntry guise is then to de vise some gam - bols of Yule - tide play where



get - ting old wrongs with ca - rols and songs to drive the cold win - ter a - way.
whol - ly con - sort with mirth and with sport to drive the cold win - ter a - way.
old and the young doth ca - rol this song to drive the cold win - ter a - way.
at the young men do the best that they can to drive the cold win - ter a - way.

E⁵ A B E⁵ A

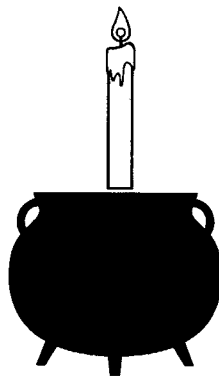
your was - sail, and it's our wa - ssail! And its
 vs 4 harm girls harm: no harm gir - ls harm
 harm boys harm: no harm bo - ys harm and a

18

E⁵ A B E

jo - y be to you and a jo - lly was - sail!
 drop or two of ci - der will do us no - harm!

22



Green Grow'th the Holly

O.B.C. version
16th century

Green grow'th the hol - ly so doth the
 Gay are the flow - ers Hedge - rows and
 Full gold the har - vest grain for thy
 Fast fall the shed leaves ru - sset and
 Green grow'th the hol - ly so doth the

i - vy plough - lands la - bour yel - low i - vy
 Though The With But The
 win days god re god
 - ter grow must sting of
 blasts long work buds life
 blow er for are can
 ne'r in dai snu ne
 so the ly g and ver

high, sun bread safe die (pause)
 Green Soft Else Where Hope!
 growth fall man swung saith
 the the thou the the
 hol show star dead hol
 - ly. - ers. - vest. leaves. ly!

The Greensleeves Carol

words: Norman Hles

Henry VIII
(allegedly)

The old year now - a - way has fled the new year it - has en - ter - ed
The first day of the year we keep and we shall ne - ver wail or weep
And now with new - year gifts each friend his let - ter doth the o - ther send

5

let us now - our fears down - tread and joy - ful - ly a - ll a - ppear O
we - will good for - tune - reap and li - ve with mer - ry cheer O
we will our com - fort lend and spare not of our gear O

9

Let's mer - ry be this day - and let us now - both dance and play
Houses now are crowned with thorn - with ber - ry and - with i - vy corn
Like a snake cast off your skin and to fresh fel - low feel - ings win

13

kiss, lo - ve, cast cares a - way to wel - come in - the new year
we'll up hold the was - sail horn To wel - come in - the new year
Living so you shall be - gin to wel - come in - the new year

Merry Gentlemen

words: Norman Hles

Trad

C B

Now make ye mer - ry gent - le - men let win - ter not dis -
 Now make ye mer - ry la - dies let dark - ness not af -
 Now make ye mer - ry batch - el - ors let need not numb your
 Now make ye mer - ry mai - dens let damp not spoil your
p Now make ye mer - ry chil - dren let fear not you be -
f Now to the sun sing prai - ses all you wi - thin this

C B

may For the sure sun does now re - turn u - pon this ve - ry
 fright For the sure sun doth now re - turn so strong and bold and
 mind For the sure sun does now re - turn in fire and flesh and
 lay For the sure sun does now re - turn You'll dance u - pon the
 guile For the sure sun does now re - turn you'll eat and play and
 place And like a lo - ving com - pa - ny each o - ther do em -

C D/B C D/B

day To keep us all from dark and cold he has not gone a -
 bright to keep us all from dark and cold he has his man - ly
 wine To keep us all from dark and cold he has a way to
 hay To keep us all from dark and cold He'll give you what you
 smile To keep us all from dark and cold There's pre - sents for each
 brace The heart - felt time of the new year is draw - ing on a -

E

way;
might;
find;
pray;
child;
pace;

O - ti - dings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and

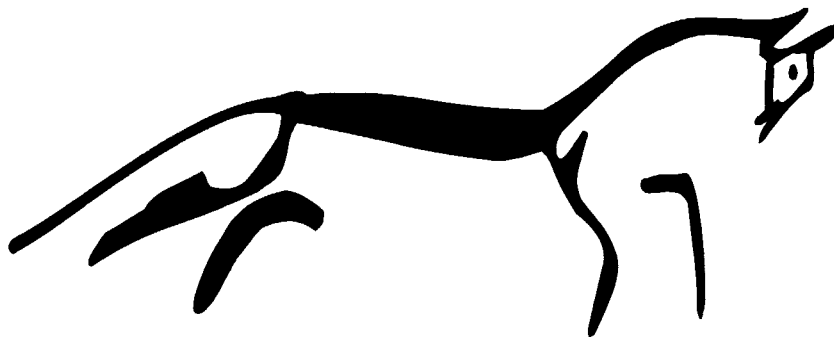
c

B

c

F


joy, O - ti - dings of com - fort and joy!



Midwinter's Day

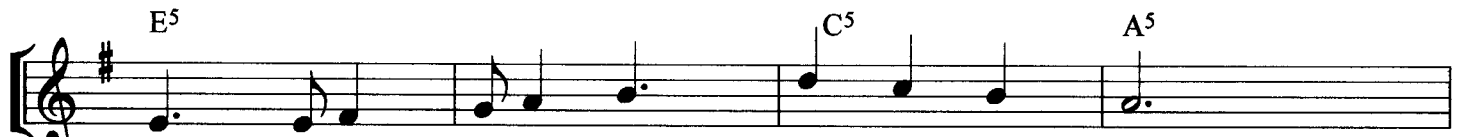
words and music
Tim Hall

E⁵ C⁵



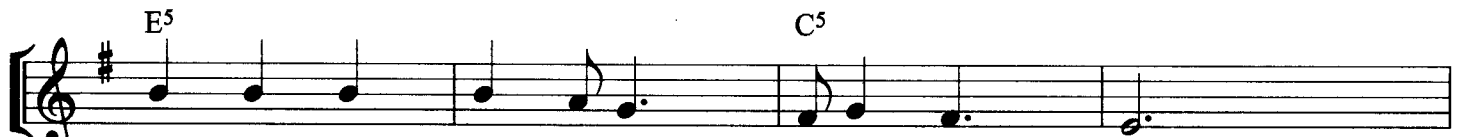
Bro - thers and sis - ters now lend me your ears,
Some brought him frank - in - cence myr - rh and gold,
Ab - bots and mo - nks of yes - ter - time
Let us re - mem - ber on this win - ter's day,

E⁵ C⁵ A⁵




5 why do we cel - e - brate this time of year?
some bought his eff - ig - y and know not what they sold,
lay down your bo - oks and share out the wine,
why we make mer - ry and ca - rol and play,

E⁵ C⁵




9 some say those feet did in an - cient times
some bought the em - pire and paid for their
lay down your quar - rels and sheath up your
some say a chi - ld in beth - le - hem swords,
born,

E⁵ C⁵ A⁵



13 walk u - pon past - ures much clo - ser to home *chorus*
some brought in arm - ies to do the heath - ens in *chorus*
this is no way - to wor - ship your lord,
some say we wait for the sun to re - turn,


E⁵ C⁵



17

put down your guilt and your un - ho - ly fears,
some say the sun was the son of the sun,

E⁵ C⁵ A⁵



21

love some loves say lo - ve and that's all there is; *chorus*
the mabon, I've near - ly be - gun; *chorus*

chorus:

Hey an a Hey, ca - rol a - way,

25

let's raise the raf - ters on mid - win - ter's day.

29

Hey an a Hey, ca - rol a - way,

33

let's raise the raf - ters on mid - win - ter's day!

37

The Grail Carol

Trad (R.V.W)



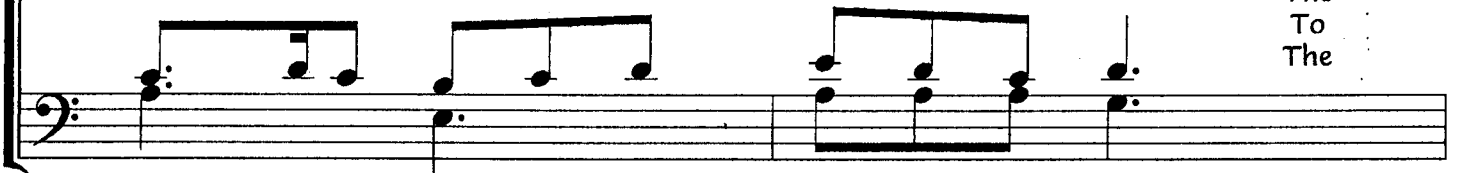
He ba - re him u - p he ba - re him down
 - Down in yon for - est there sta - nds a hall;
 In - that ha - ll there sta - nds a bed;
p And in that be - d there li - eth a knight; LU -
 By - that bed - side there knee - leth a may;
f Un - der that be - d there ru - ns a flood;
p U - pon the bed - post the moo - n shines bright;
all f And by the bed - side there stan - deth a stone;



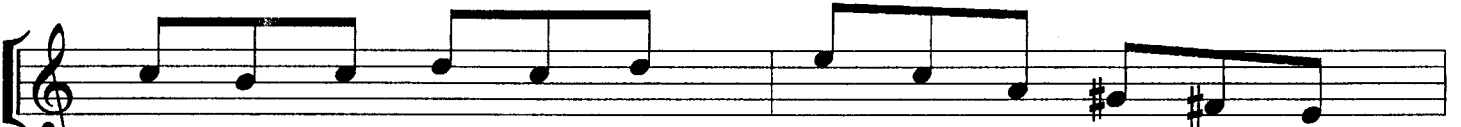
LLEY - LU - LLEY LU - LLEY LU - LLEY

He
It's
It's
His

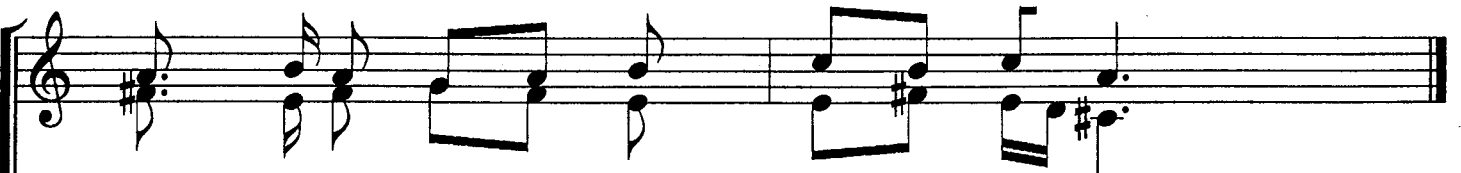
The
To
The



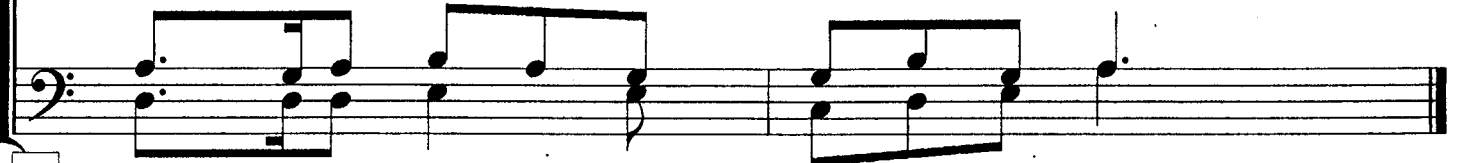
4



Ba - re him to - an or - chard bro - wn
 co - vered all o - ver with pur - ple and pa - ll;
 co - vered all o - ver with go - ld so re - d;
 wou - nds did blee - d both da - y and ni - ght; THE
p A - nd she weep - eth both ni - ght and da - y;
 one half runs wa - ter the o - ther runs bloo - d;
 bring in the ho - ney dew this ve - ry ni - ght;
 an - - cient mys - ter - ies writ - ten there - on - ;



FAL - CON HATH BO - RN MY MA - KE A - WAY



8

The Holly and the Ivy

14

words: Norman Hles

Trad



all O the ho - lly a - nd the i - vy when they are bo - th full grown of
 the ho - lly bears a blos - som white as the li - ly flower and
 men the ho - lly bears a ber - ry as red as a - ny blood and
 the ho - lly bears a prick - le as sharp as a - ny thorn and
 the ho - lly bears a bark bi - tter as a - ny gall and
 all O the ho - lly a - nd the i - vy when they are bo - th full grown of



6
 all the trees that are in the wood the ivy*/ho - lly* be - ars the crown The
 i - vy be - ars the black - est buds to pu - ll him to - her power
 women i - vy be - ars the greenest leaves to wra - p him in - her hood
 i - vy be - ars a cling - ing vine to smo - ther hi - m right down
 i - vy be - ars small nec - tar flowers to swee - ten a - ll his fall
 all the trees that are in the wood these two - shall wrea the as one



10
 all Ri - sing of - the sun and the run - ning of - the deer, the



14
 roun - ding of - the shi - ning moon, the wea - ry worn hun - ter.

*women sing "ivy"



*men sing "holly"

The Best of Trees

words: Norman Iles

Trad

E A B E B E

I - vy is the best of trees, Come, bear thy ber-ries.

E A B E B E

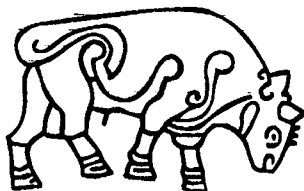
5 She's the tree that doth men please, Come, bear thy ber-ries.

G#m7 C#m7 G#m7 C#m7 A B

9 she's worth more than all the- town gold jew - els or king's crown,
 she is kind and soft of - speech love's la- nguage she doth teach
 E - ver green and al - ways young smooth jo - ys are round her hung,
 She has ber - ries brown or - black, they sho - w where there's no lack

E A B E B E

13 still more with o - ut a - gown, come bear thy ber - ries.
 to him who ca - n the- m reach, come bear thy ber - ries
 I'd prove what I - ha - ve sung, come bear thy ber - ries.
 bear them and ho - ld no - t back, come bear thy ber - ries.



Deck the Hall

words traditional

arr tim hall

Deck the hall with boughs of hol - ly
See the bla - zing log be - fore us
Fast away the old year pas - ses

fa la la la la la la la la
fa la la la la fa la la la la
fa fa la la - la fa la la la la
fa la la la la fa la la la la

'Tis the sea - son to be - jol - ly
Strike the harp and join the chor - us
Hail the new year lads and las - ses

fa la la la la fa la la la la
fa la la la la fa la la la la
fa la lalala la la la la la
fa fa la la la

5

Don we now our gay ap - pa - rel
Fol - low me in mer - ry meas - ure
Sing we joy - ous - ly to - ge - ther

fa la la fa la la la la la
fa la la la la la la la la
fa la la la la la la la la
fa la la fala lala lala la

9

Troll the an - cient Yule - tide ca - rol
While I tell of sols - tice trea - sure
Heed less of the wind and wea - ther

fa la la la la fa la la la la
fa la fa la la la la la la la
fa la fa la la la la la la la
fa fa fa la la la

7

Patapan

words: Norman Iles

Burgundian

Em C⁵ B⁵

B⁵ C⁵ B⁵ Em C⁵ B

B⁵ C⁵ B⁵ Em C⁵ B⁵ E

Em C⁵ B

Ma - re bring your rounded drum with your long flute ro - bin come,
 Thus the men of old - en days lov'd the up - rising sun to praise,
 Sun and Moon have now be - come more at one than flute and drum,

14 Pan pa ta pan pa ta pan.....etc

B C B Em C⁵ B⁵

when we hear them play as one, tu - re - lu - re - lu pa - ta - pa - ta - pan
 now we hear both flute and drum,
 when we hear them play as one

19

B C B Em C⁵ B E

when we hear them play as one then the year will be well be - gun.
 now we hear both flute and drum sure - ly we too must do the. same.
 when we hear them play as one to - ge - ther - let us come!

23