

Wareham Whaler's Songbook

Louisa and The Forest Hall

January 1899, the Louisa Lifeboat was instrumental in saving the Forrest Hall and her crew of 15.

Down the channel sailed the Forest Hall
Heave away O heave away
She left Bristol before nightfall
Heave, heave away!

A storm blew and the rudder gave way
Heave away O heave away
To the rocks she drifted that day.
Heave, heave away!

The shout went up in Lynmouth town
Heave away O heave away
The lifeboat crew, they all came down.
Heave, heave away!

We cannot launch from Lynmouth pier
Heave away O heave away
We'll have to go to Porlock Weir
Heave, heave away!

But Porlock's thirteen miles from here
Heave away O heave away
We'll not have time for this I fear
Heave, heave away!

The call went out throughout the town
Heave away O heave away
And a hundred men and women were found
Heave, heave away!

With twenty horses gathered that night
Heave away O heave away
They pulled as one with all their might,
Heave, heave away!

Over moors and hills throughout the night.
Heave away O heave away
And came to Porlock at daylight
Heave, heave away!

They launched Louisa straight away
Heave away O heave away
And the crew of the Forest Hall were saved.
Heave, heave away!

Let's remember Lynmouth lifeboat crew
Heave away O heave away
And all brave souls and what they do.
Heave, heave away!

So heave away and don't delay
Heave away O heave away
Heave away and now belay
Heave, heave away!