

Now modern ships carry mighty funny gear

And away, get away, you shanty man

Ain't seen a halyard for many's a year

And they got no use for a shanty man

Slick new fittings are all your style

And away, get away, you shanty man

All very clever, but it just ain't right

ch

And they got no use for a shanty man

Shanty man, oh, shanty man

Who's got a berth for a shanty man?

Sing you a song of a world gone wrong

When they got no use for a shanty man

Levers to pull and buttons to press

And away, get away, you shanty man

Real-life sailors you meet 'em less

And they got no use for a shanty man

Floating computer dressed as a ship

And away, get away, you shanty man

Skippered and crewed by a microchip

ch

Soon they'll be sailing by remote control

And away, get away, you shanty man

That'll be pleasing for the owners' soul

And they got no use for a shanty man

Send their ships from dock to dock

And away, get away, you shanty man

While sat upon their arses in an office block

ch

Newfangled gear's no use to you

And away, get away, you shanty man

When you're off Cape Horn with your fuses blew

And they got no use for a shanty man

Then's the time you rue the day

And away, get away, you shanty man

You sent your shanty man away

ch

A sailor's life it once was hard
And away, get away, you shanty man
Laid out aloft on a topsail yard
And they got no use for a shanty man
Now it don't matter if the winds blow high
And away, get away, you shanty man
You can take force ten with your feet still dry
ch

Listen at night and you might hear
And away, get away, you shanty man
A ghostly sound on the cool night air
And they got no use for a shanty man
Was it a ghost from the distant past?
And away, get away, you shanty man
Or just a breeze in the radar mast?
And they got no use for a shanty man
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