

South Australia

*Complex rhythms in student's part:
clap a number of times before
playing. A good song for singers
and recorders, percussion and
performance.*

Pupil

Lively - Vivace

Trad Arr D V



Teacher



South Australia

It was (and still is) hard work putting up the sails on a large sailing ship. If the sailors didn't get the tension of all the different ropes right, the sails would not set well; they would be wrinkled and not catch the wind well at sea. The Sea Chanteys were often sung while several gangs of sailors pulled on the ropes so that, as they pulled, the sails would go up smooth and well-set. Can you hear where the sailors are pulling on the ropes in the song?

What are the names of some old-fashioned sailing ships which you might see round our Australian harbours? Have you met any boys or girls who have been sailing in them?

In the words to the song, people disagree about the Chorus. Some people sing "heave away, you ruling kings" (meaning the sailors). We have used "ruling pins" because the "ruling pins" were important for getting the mainsail up. Listen carefully and you will hear other words as well sometimes.

1

In South Australia I was born
Heave away, haul away
South Australia round Cape Horn,
We're bound for South Australia.

Chorus

Heave away you ruling pins,
Heave away, haul away
Heave away you ruling pins,
We're bound for South Australia.

2

There ain't but one thing grieves my mind
Heave away, haul away
But to leave my dear wife and child behind
We're bound for South Australia.

3

When I am homeward bound again
Heave away, haul away
My name I'll publish on the main
We're bound for South Australia.

4

Now fare thee well and fare thee well
Heave away, haul away
For sweet news to my girl I'll tell
We're bound for South Australia.

