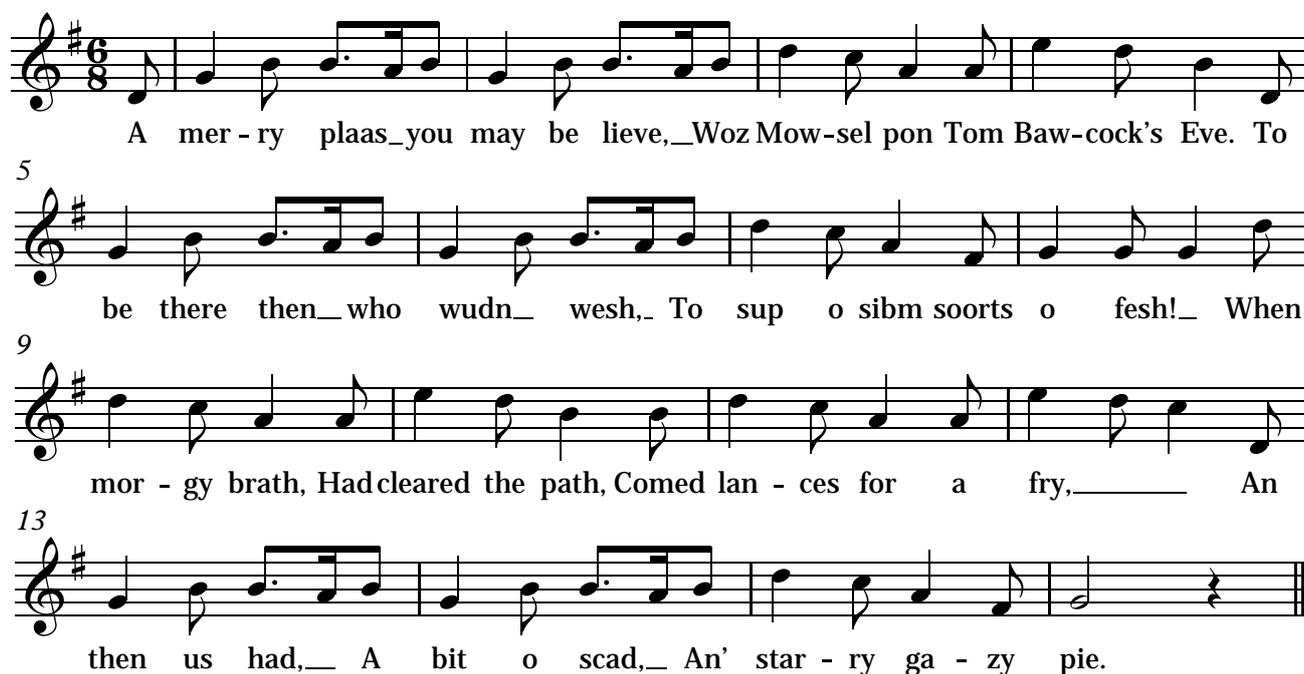


## Tom Bawcock's Eve

*Cornish Dialect*

*As noted in Sengen Fiddee, An Daras Cornish Folk Dialect Songs Project, 2003*



A mer - ry plaas\_you may be lieve,\_Woz Mow-sel pon Tom Baw-cock's Eve. To  
5  
be there then\_who wudn\_ wesh,\_ To sup o sibm soorts o fesh!\_ When  
9  
mor - gy brath, Had cleared the path, Comed lan - ces for a fry,\_\_\_\_\_ An  
13  
then us had,\_\_\_ A bit o scad,\_\_\_ An' star - ry ga - zy pie.

Nex cumed fermaads,  
Bra' thusty jades,  
As maade ar oozles dry,  
An ling an haak,  
Enough to maake  
A raunen shark to sy!

*Chorus*

As aich we'd clunk ,  
A's ealth were drunk,  
En bumpers bremmen high,  
An wen up came,  
Tom Bawcock's name  
We praised un to the sky!

*Chorus*

### Notes

Dialect Terms:

Morgy - Dog Fish

Braa (braav) - very / a lot of

Lances - Sand Eels

Scad - Horse Mackerel

Star Gazey Pie - Fish Pie with heads thrusting out through the pastry.

Fermaads - a pilchard, sometimes but not always smoked or cured.

Oozle - throat

Clunk – to swallow

Tom Bawcock's Eve is held in Moushole on 23rd December. Robert Morton Nance learned a number of different stories about the origins Tom Bawcock's eve from the fisherfolk of the village in the early 20th Century. In some stories "Tom Bawcock" rescued the village from starvation by going out fishing in a dangerous storm, in others he broke with convention by fishing on this traditional feast day and recieved his due deserts with a poor catch of a motly fish. Morton Nance was inspired to write a few verses about Tom Bawcock and in The Cornish Song Book (1929) Ralph Dunstan set this to a traditional Cornish Tea Treat wedding march. It has since become an established tradition to sing this as Star Gazey Pie is served in Mousehole on 23rd Dec and was brought to a wide audience in the recordings of poplar Cornish singer, Brenda Wootton. The version given here is from the 2003 An Daras Cornish Folk Arts Project "Sengen Fiddee".